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ABSTRACT

This document is comprised of the three 2002 issues of the newsletter for Generations United, a national membership organization focused on promoting intergenerational policies, strategies, and programs. The first issue reflects on two events: responses to the September 11th terrorist attacks, and on the organization's international conference that followed one month later. The second issue focuses on shared sites and resources for programs. The third issue focuses on the changing role of older Americans. Regular features of the newsletter include program, legislative, and public policy updates; conference reports; and news from the states. (HTH)

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Together: The Generations United Newsletter, 2002.

Jaia Peterson, Editor

Generations United

Vol. 7, No. 1-3
2002

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generations united
a national coalition dedicated to intergenerational policy, programs and issues

Together

THE GENERATIONS UNITED NEWSLETTER

Winter 2002
Volume 7 • Number 1

SEPTEMBER 11TH: THE INTERGENERATIONAL RESPONSE

By Sheri Steinig,
Program Director and
Jaia Peterson,
Public Policy Coordinator,
Generations United

The tragic events of September 11th took place in New York, Washington, DC, and Pennsylvania. However, they touched every American of every age, whether personally or vicariously. Many reported a need to connect, to reach out in their communities, and across the country. Many reached out to older relatives and friends looking for reassurance that comes from experience and age.

As members of all generations begin to heal together, the opportunities for intergenerational connections and partner-ships abound. Individuals and organizations interested in supporting intergenera-tional approaches should:

- *identify the intergenerational intersections in their current work;*
- *recognize the intergenerational implications of the events of September 11th; and*
- *explore current intergenerational programs that are responding directly or indirectly to the tragedy and seize opportunities for innovative intergenerational approaches.*

Whether in school or community settings, dialogues between the generations can help older generations feel connected and of service while offering stability to children and youth.

INTERGENERATIONAL INTERSECTIONS IN THE CURRENT RESPONSES TO SEPTEMBER 11TH

Many organizations that have an important role in the intergenerational community have issued statements in response to the September 11th tragedy that reflect their intergenerational understanding and approach to healing and preparation for the future.

"The tragedy of September 11th has left a deep hole in the soul of our society. While we may never fill the void created on that horrific day, we can certainly reach out to one another within our own communities in meaningful ways," said Robert Goodwin, President and CEO of the Points of Light Foundation. "By sharing our resources, time and talents to help others, we can help restore a sense of hope in our hearts, homes, communities and ultimately the nation."

Photo by Heather Hawk

Reverend Bryan Hehir, president and CEO of Catholic Charities USA, a faith-based network of agencies nationwide that provides a wide range of services to children, youth and seniors, explains that, "As the lingering effects of the September 11th terrorist attacks become more apparent, Catholic

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From the Executive Director: Donna Butts

In this issue we reflect on two events: responses to September 11th and our international conference that followed one month later. We at GU appreciate the tremendous support our members, friends and colleagues gave us during the difficult final planning days. Because of you, it was a joyous celebration of community. Mark your calendars and be sure to join us for our next conference in 2003.

Along with the event of this fall, these months have marked a time of remembrance, reflection and thanks giving. Fred Ramstedt, founder of intergenerational week, passed away recently. I always remember the first time he called me over four years ago. I was brand new at Generations United and he wanted to tell me GU wasn't doing enough to promote intergenerational week. I found over the years that Fred was always direct, stubborn, tenacious and had a heart of gold. All qualities he tirelessly directed to promoting the importance of intergenerational connections. My last visit with Fred was just days before he died. It was as a much comfort for me as him to be able to tell him one last time how inspirational he was to those in the intergenerational world. I reassured him that we would continue to promote intergenerational week and his book. As a regular contributor to Together, Fred offered opinion and commentary as only a 95 year old can. We will miss him.

On behalf of GU I would also like to pay tribute to another man, a brilliant visionary, John Gardner, former head of the old Department of Health, Education and Welfare, founder of Common Cause and hero to many. He has fought a battle with cancer for several years and as we go to press we've learned that he is in his final days. John will always hold an important place in intergenerational history. It is his thinking and vision that gave birth to the current Experience Corps program, one of the most successful and rapidly expanding intergenerational programs in the country.

To borrow a Chinese Proverb from our dear colleague Matt Kaplan, "One generation plants the trees under whose shade future generations rest." We are grateful for people like Fred and John who cared enough to plant and tend trees yesterday.

From the Chair: John Rother

As we enter the new year, I am pleased to report that Generations United continues to grow in membership numbers, projects and accomplishments. GU recently received an Innovative Grant from the US Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Aging (AoA), as part of the National Family Caregiver Support Program (NFCSP). The grant will enable GU to support the implementation of the NFCSP by establishing the National Center on Grandparents and Other Relatives Raising Children as an umbrella for all of GU's grandparent work. Through the center we will coordinate a national network of experts to provide training and technical assistance to the aging network and other professionals to impact the lives of relative caregivers and the children they raise. We are also pleased that the success of our first intergenerational photo contest sponsored by the MetLife Foundation has inspired another photo contest and a book about the experiences of 2001 winning participants.

GU is increasingly being recognized as a leader in intergenerational and kinship care policy issues as signified by Donna Butts' recent testimony before the Commission on Affordable Housing and Health Facility Needs for Seniors in the 21st Century. Her testimony in November on intergenerational learning and care centers, living arrangements, and environments for grandparent-headed households was well-received and stimulated requests for further information and consultation from the commission.

Despite the devastating events of September 11th, we held our biennial conference in October and were pleased to have over 200 people in attendance including 14 from the Netherlands as well as participants from the United Kingdom and Singapore.

Several changes have occurred in our board recently. I would like to welcome Mary Ann Van Clief, Vice President, The Brookdale Foundation Group, to our board. She brings rich experience and a unique perspective that will be valuable to our work. Two members will be leaving our board, Don Floyd, President of the National 4-H Council and Skip Schenk, Director of AT & T Family Care Development Fund. I would like to thank them for their service. We look forward to continuing to work with Skip and Don and 4-H in other capacities.

American Family Comes to PBS

By Hector H. Lopez

American Family, a series about a Hispanic multigenerational family living in Los Angeles, debuted on PBS on January 23, 2002. This groundbreaking series was created by Academy Award nominated director Gregory Nava and is produced by his production company, El Norte productions as well as KCET/Hollywood. Generations United is part of the national outreach campaign to support *American Family* and encourage viewers to share stories, have fun, and celebrate families by developing their own family album.

Cast of American Family

The series was created as a show that would make the audience laugh and cry as it chronicled the daily struggles and triumphs of an American family. It stars Edward James Olmos, Sonia Braga, Raquel Welch and Constance Marie. It is set in East Los Angeles and based on the lives of the Gonzalez family. In the series, Jess Gonzalez (Edward James Olmos), portrays the grandfather who faces many issues of a multigenerational family in the ever-changing world, including his dynamic relationship with his liberal, political activist daughter, Nina Gonzalez (Constance Marie) and the unexpected caregiving needs of his grandson. Though definitely a drama, the series has comic elements with much of the humor arising out of the cross-cultural, multigenerational experiences of the characters.

Gregory Nava is an extraordinary storyteller and the team that has been built to bring this series to life will make *American Family* a landmark series for American television. *American Family* not only touches on Hispanic issues. It brings the first Hispanic series to television. It also brings to light the fact that multigenerational families such as the Gonzalez' are becoming increasingly common throughout the United States. It highlights the many obstacles facing multigenerational families, such as raising a child, caring for elders, single parenthood, and the high cost of living and housing.

American Family should prove to be a victory on many fronts: a victory for Hispanic issues, a victory for diverse television, a victory for multigenerational issues, and a victory for the American family.

At time of printing, mini-grants are available for local projects related to the series. Please visit the GU website at www.gu.org or the American Family site at www.pbs.org/americanfamily for more information.

Hector Lopez is a Senior at Georgetown University. He has been working with Generations United through the Georgetown work-study program.

Mini Grants are available through Generations United. See back page for details.

Generations United *Together*

Together celebrates the richness of generations by providing useful information about intergenerational programs and policies through articles that address the mutual well-being of children, youth, adults, and older adults.

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Bob Rosenblatt, Los Angeles Times, Washington D.C. Correspondent, Washington, D.C.

Generations United members represent many viewpoints. Inclusion of articles, research, conferences, or resources does not imply GU's endorsement. We encourage our members to submit articles, artwork, photographs, and information on upcoming events, recent publications, or honors. All materials are considered carefully for publication.

Together is published quarterly for members of Generations United.

Please submit e-mail to jpeterson@gu.org or a disc compatible with Microsoft Word to Editor, Generations United, 122 C Street, N.W., Suite 820, Washington, DC 20001 or call 202/638-1263.

Joia Peterson, Editor
Marcia DeLong, Design & Layout, DeLong Litho

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In The Spotlight:

In the Spotlight: American Association of Homes and Services for the Aging

The American Association of Homes and Services for the Aging (AAHSA) is a nonprofit association representing 5,600 mission-driven, not-for-profit nursing homes, continuing care retirement communities, assisted living and senior housing facilities, and community service organizations. Every day, AAHSA's members serve one million older persons across the country.

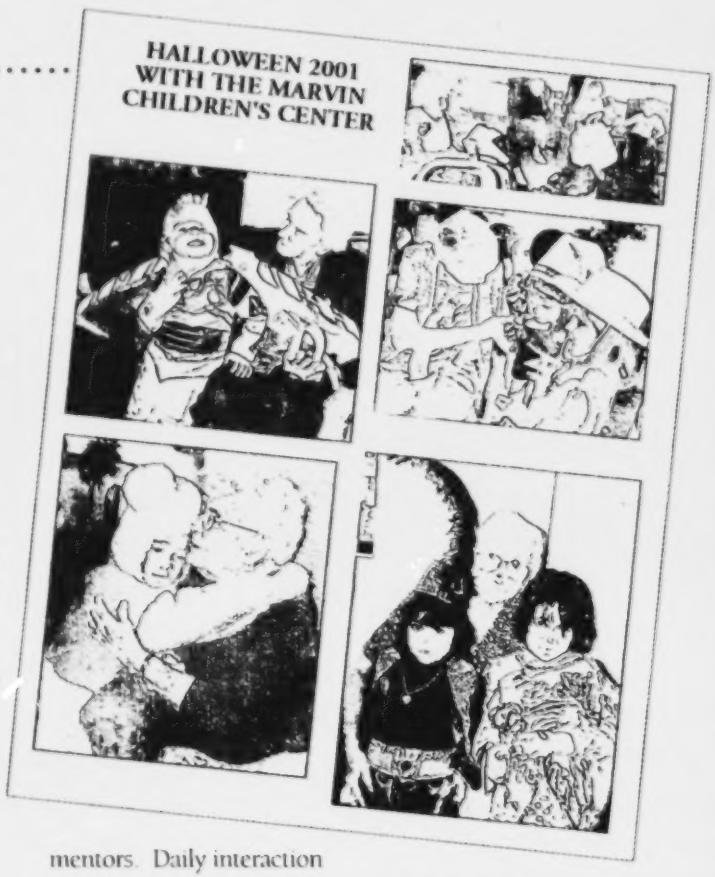
AAHSA serves its members by representing the concerns of not-for-profit organizations that serve the elderly through interaction with Congress and federal agencies. The association also strives to enhance the professionalism of practitioners and facilities through accreditation and certification programs, educational conferences and publications representing current thinking in the long-term care and retirement housing fields. As a Generations United board member organization, AAHSA has shown commitment to encouraging intergenerational programming in its member organizations. The following are two examples of the many intergenerational programs currently operated by AAHSA members.

The Marvin

By Mary Windt
Executive Director
The Marvin/
Under One Roof, Inc.

When one 66-year-old resident of Norwalk, Conn., was looking for a new place to live, one reason she chose The Marvin was that it was about to open a child care center that would allow her to interact daily with young children. The Marvin, an intergenerational senior housing and child care initiative, opened in March 1997 and offers affordable congregate housing for the frail elderly. It also contains The Marvin Children's Center – a renovated wing for preschool children complete with two classrooms, a kitchen, access to an indoor community room and a large outdoor playground. The center was made possible through a unique public-private partnership. Older residents are actively involved with the children, sharing their time, telling stories and serving as mentors. Daily interaction with the children helps to meet the emotional needs of residents and keep them active. The center also services the needs of low-income families in the area who need quality childcare. The Marvin is owned and operated by Under One Roof, Inc., an independent not-for-profit organization formed for the sole purpose of developing this unique intergenerational program.

For more information contact Mary Windt at 203-854-4660 or e-mail uormarvin@aol.com



Teddy Bear Intergenerational Outreach Program

By Helen Shelly
Activity Director
Willow Wood at Woldenberg Village

Sometimes a hug is just what you need to feel safe. That is what the residents of Woldenberg Village in New Orleans, La., have given local children through their award-winning Teddy Bear Intergenerational

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Intergenerational Public Policy Update

The events of September 11th substantially changed the schedule and priorities of Congress, who did not finish their 2001 session until the week before Christmas. With more funds being directed toward homeland security and plans for stimulating the economy, many domestic human service programs have received less attention and funding than anticipated. Although the Social Services Block Grant was hit with another decrease and plans for the introduction of housing legislation were postponed until 2002, there is some good news for the intergenerational community in the areas of education, national and community service, and supportive services to family caregivers.

Elementary and Secondary Education Act

After nearly a full year of debate on the Education bill, which was the first bill to be introduced in the 107th Congress, conferees agreed on a version, which passed the House and Senate and was signed into law on January 9. While the most publicized changes in the Elementary and Secondary Education Act have revolved around mandatory student testing and new federal requirements for quality improvements in teaching and school accountability, the bill also includes good news for grandparents.

In April, Generations United submitted language to the Education and Workforce Committee asking that the definition of parent include grandparents and other relatives raising children. The committee adopted some of the language into their bill and this new language was included in the final version, which was signed by the president. The revised definition specifically identifies grandparents and stepparents as examples of qualifying persons "standing in loco parentis."

While rules regarding enrollment of children, are primarily determined at the state and local level, the new definition will improve access to education for children being raised by grandparents by helping to clarify that grandparents, who are frequently excluded, should be involved in provisions concerning parental involvement in the children's education. While the previous definition did not exclude grandparents and other relatives, it did not clearly name them either. The new version still does not specifically name other relatives raising children in its definition of parent. It does, however, further open the door to an interpretation, which is more inclusive of this population. The revisions in the definition of parent are outlined below.

Elementary and Secondary Education Act

Old Definition

PARENT- The term 'parent' includes a legal guardian or other person standing in loco parentis.

New Definition

PARENT- The term 'parent' includes a legal guardian or other person standing in loco parentis (such as a grandparent or stepparent with whom the child lives, or a person who is legally responsible for the child's welfare).

Corporation for National and Community Service

While any congressional action around the reauthorization of the Corporation for National and Community Service (formerly the Corporation for National Service) was pushed to 2002, appropriators increased funding for CNCS programs for FY 2002. Funding for Seniors Corps, which falls under the umbrella of CNCS programs, increased by almost $18 million from last year. Senior Corps program increases included 7.8 million more for foster grandparents, 4 million more for senior companions and $6 million more for retired senior volunteers. The bill also includes a 10 cent per hour stipend increase for foster grandparents and senior companions. AmeriCorps*Vista funding also went up $2.2 million. While $400,000 that was appropriated for senior demonstration activities was directed for evaluations, recruitment and training and technical assistance, Congress stipulated that it cannot be used for new demonstrations projects.

Five million dollars was also appropriated for a new "Volunteers in Homeland Security" initiative under CNCS. This initiative comes in response to the president's November 8th announcement that the CNCS will support homeland security in the coming year in three major areas: public safety, public health, and disaster mitigation and preparedness. Furthermore, proposed legislation announced on November 6th by Senators John McCain (R-AZ) and Evan Bayh (D-IN) and Representatives Harold Ford (D-TN) and Tom Osborne (R-NE) would expand the number of AmeriCorps members by five times in the next ten years. Fifty percent of these members would be required to serve on projects involving homeland security or public safety. Furthermore the legislation would authorize the Silver Scholarships program, which was originally included in the Corporation's FY 2002 budget request but was not

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Generations Come Together for Intergeneration Day 2001

By Lisa Ruth,
Executive Director of Intergeneration Foundation

October 7, 2001 marked the Second Annual Intergeneration Day, culminating Intergeneration Activities Week. This national event initiated by Intergeneration Foundation of Colorado Springs, Colorado is designed to increase awareness about intergenerational issues, relationships and programs. Participation in Intergeneration Day 2001 brings us closer to this goal, and the Intergenerational Foundation looks forward to partnering with other organizations to expand awareness and participation each succeeding year.

Participation in Intergeneration Day spread from a local Colorado Springs event in 2000 to a national event in 2001. The following organizations are a sampling of those who endorsed or participated in Intergeneration Day:

Generations United
American Council of Life Insurers
The Eden Alternative
Rainbow Bridge, Denver, Colorado
Lincoln Nebraska Area Agency on Aging
Bowman Elementary School, South Carolina
Hampton County Recreation Department, South Carolina
Purdue University Gerontology Student Organization
Pikes Peak Library District, Colorado Springs, Colorado
Centura Health Senior Services, Colorado
The Center for Christian-Jewish Dialogue
National Estate Planners and Councils
Colorado Springs Senior Center

Plan now for October 9th Intergenerational Day 2002

Intergeneration Day

In addition, the Governors of 22 states and Puerto Rico have recognized Intergeneration Day through proclamations. Those states are: Alaska, California, Colorado, Florida, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Mississippi, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, Virginia, and Washington.

Intergeneration Day efforts received strong support at the biannual international conference of the World Jurist Association in Dublin, Ireland in September 2001. Delegates of lawyers, judges and law professors from 44 countries unanimously passed a resolution presented by Intergeneration Foundation President Sandy Kraemer encouraging all nations to focus increased attention on intergenerational issues.

This year the Lincoln Nebraska Area Agency on Aging coordinated an event with the Cedars Home for Children, a temporary home for children in the foster care system. Seniors and the children did craft projects and story time together. Tami Barrett, the Intergenerational Coordinator for the project stated, "Everyone seemed to really enjoy the evening. Seniors were able to see how resilient these children are through their difficult lives and the children enjoyed some personal attention. Aging Services would like to take part in next year's Intergeneration Day."

Other events included story times at the library, church services, family reunions, nursing home visits by youth, heritage projects, socials, dances and craft shows.

We are now entering into the planning stages for Intergeneration Day 2002, which will take place on Sunday October 6, 2002 culminating Intergeneration Activities Week. Please include this date in your yearly calendar of events.

Intergeneration Day creates positive press and community awareness about age-integrated programs. Your communities, clients, service area and funders become more aware of what you are doing and the

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PUBLIC POLICY UPDATE, *continued from page 5*

funded for FY 2002. The Silver Scholarships program would allow older Americans to volunteer 500 hours of tutoring and mentoring for youth in exchange for $1000 scholarships for use by their children, grandchildren or another children.

Older American Act

The Older Americans Act received increases in funding for nearly every one of its services, with an overall increase of nearly nine percent from last year. Among the increases is additional funding for the National Family Caregiver Support Program, which saw a $16.5 million increase, landing at $141.5 million for FY 2002. Up to ten percent of these funds can be used for support services for grandparents and other older relatives raising children.

Social Services Block Grant

Despite efforts by a coalition of advocacy groups working to restore funding of the Social Services Block Grant to the full $2.38 billion agreed to in the 1996 welfare law, SSBG funding was decreased to $1.7 billion, down 25 million from last year. The strong voices of advocates were, however, able to maintain the ability for states to transfer up to ten percent of their TANF funds to SSBG.

Housing Legislation for Grandparents and Other Relatives Raising Children

After the events of September 11th and changing legislative priorities, plans for the introduction of housing legislation for grandparents raising children were postponed to 2002. Generations United has been working with Representative Capuano (D-MA) to iron out details of the proposed legislation to improve access to safe and affordable housing for grandparents and other relatives raising children. This bill will be called LEGACY: Living Equitably – Grandparents Aiding Children &Youth, inspired by the Academy Award nominated film, Legacy, which helped stimulate the development of the legislation. The bill will include provisions to create demonstration programs to replicate Grandfamilies, a successful housing facility in Boston designed specifically for grandparents and other relatives raising children. It will also clarify that grandparent- headed households are eligible for family unification housing and call for education of frontline workers who, though no fault of their own, may be misinterpreting policies in a way that inappropriately limits housing for these families. The proposed legislation recently gained another original co-sponsor, Representative Connie Morella (R-MD), one of the co-chairs of the Older Americans Caucus in the House. With bi-partisan support, this proposed legislation should be ready for introduction in early 2002.

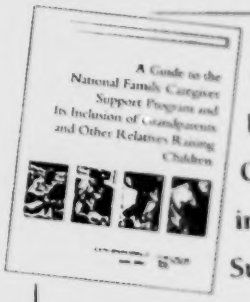
For up to date information on this and other legislation relevant to intergenerational programs and policies, visit the legislative alert and public policy update sections of GU's web site at www.gu.org, or if you would like to receive timely legislative updates and alerts about what you can do to help pass intergenerational legislation in 2002, please contact Jaia Peterson by emailing jpeterson@gu.org.

INTERGENERATION DAY, *continued from page 6*

benefits involved. Service organizations not involved in ongoing intergenerational programs can consider collaborations to celebrate Intergeneration Day, therefore leading to improved relations between senior and youth organizations.

We believe the impact of intergeneration messages and the voices of the many interested organizations across the country will be heard if we all speak at once. This is what Intergeneration Day is about, increasing awareness, inviting participation and inspiring others.

For more information about Intergeneration Day, culminating Intergeneration Activities Week, or to report on your event, please contact Lisa Ruth at (719) 471-2910, ruth@intergenerationday.org or visit our web site www.intergenerationday.org.



Guide and Fact Sheets on the Inclusion of Grandparents and Other Relatives Raising Children in the National Family Caregiver Support Program

Now Available on the Web!

Generations United recently released its new guide to the National Family Caregiver Support Program (NFCSP) and its inclusion of Grandparents and Other Relatives Raising Children. This reader friendly, detailed guide provides: background information concerning grandparents and other relatives raising children; information about National Family Caregiver Support Program provisions; and examples of successful programs across the nation. A fact sheet about the program is available as well. Both publications can be found at www.gu.org or can be ordered by filling out a GU's publication order form or by calling 202-638-1263 or emailing gu@gu.org.

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Little Brothers Go to France: Intergenerational Connections Overseas

By Peg Mitchell,
Volunteer, Little Brothers: Friends of the Elderly

A wise, albeit grammatically challenged person once said, "If it ain't broke, don't fix it". Little Brothers - Friends of the Elderly's Chicago location elected not to heed that advice last year. After more than forty years of serving the elderly, we ventured into the intergenerational realm with an ambitious pilot program.

Little Brothers is an international organization with its roots in post World War II in France. It has had a presence in the United States since 1959, starting in Chicago and continuing to expand to various other U.S. locations.

The mission of Little Brothers is to provide companionship and friendship to the elderly through its celebrations of life and visiting friend programs. Through these programs young volunteers celebrate life's experiences, especially birthdays and holidays, with older adult participants and older adults are matched with a young volunteer for regular visits and a life-time friendship.

Inspired by the Intergenerational Center of our French counterpart, Little Brothers - Chicago organized a pilot project to bring together five older adults ranging from age 79 to 99, and six young people ranging from age 10 to 13. Project goals included demonstrating to the children the elder's vitality, and the lessons they bring from varied histories, cultures and experiences, and demonstrating to the elderly their ability to establish relationships with children at a meaningful level while giving them a personal glimpse at the lives of children today that they may not otherwise experience.

Each of the two years of the project was divided into two phases – the preparatory phase and the recreational phase. During the first phase monthly meetings were held featuring a theme that allowed for a two-way exchange of ideas and experiences. Children are encouraged to bridge time between meetings by visiting one of the elders. The second phase consisted of a two-week recreational event that demonstrated, and in fact tested, the cohesion of the relationships. For the first year the recreational event was a trip to the Little Brothers' Intergenerational Center in France.

Themes explored during the first year's monthly meetings included the history and customs of Thanksgiving, Chicago trivia and history, favorite personal pass times, patriotic holidays, childhood chores (then and now), and the exchange of recipes. Before the end of each meeting the children and the elderly collaborated to prepare an e-mail message to the staff and residents of the Little Brothers' Intergenerational Center in France who would host our visit in 2001.

The trip to France created an opportunity for the relationships and intergenerational understanding to expand to a level that monthly meetings alone could not have accomplished. Although both young and old experienced the same tours, sights and recreational activities, their perspectives on these experiences came from opposite ends of the life cycle. For example, the children no doubt had superior schooling about France than the elderly would have received early in the twentieth century. However, the elderly had the life experience and understanding of immigrating from a foreign country, or the effect of World War II on day-to-day life in Europe and the U.S. Sharing these different perspectives created an appreciation for both.

While all stated goals were met by the end of this two-year project, the most significant results were far less academic than the stated goals. The children were exposed to the realities of aging as a result of the death of one of the elderly participants early in the project, and through the casual exposure to an elderly person's prosthetic limb. On

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Collaboration Between Welfare and Child Welfare Agencies: A Strategy for Increasing Support for Children Cared for by Relatives

By Ariana Baseman
Communications Associate

Harold Leibovitz,
Communications Director
Urban Institute

In 1997, 1.8 million children lived with relatives with neither of their parents present in the home, according to The Urban Institute. More than a quarter of these children (500,000) were removed from their parents by a public agency because of abuse or neglect and placed with kin.

Many of these children, regardless of whether the state formally took them into custody, live in impoverished environments. Despite being eligible for public services, such as Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF), food stamps, and Medicaid, many children in kinship arrangements do not receive them.

Collaboration between the welfare agency and child welfare agency can improve the ability of kin to access these services. Specifically, many relatives caring for kin children rely on the TANF child-only payment because they do not receive foster care payments. Either they do not choose to receive the foster care payment or they are not able to meet the family foster care licensing requirements. As a result, some TANF and child welfare agencies are working together to modify or expand child-only payment programs.

Two concerns motivated this collaboration. If the child-only payment is not sufficient to meet the kin caregiver's needs, the family may seek services from the child welfare agency. If the family is already involved with child welfare and these payments are not enough, the family may return the child for placement with a non-kin foster care family.

The TANF offices in Denver and El Paso counties in Colorado provide supplemental payments (additional cash assistance) as well as supportive services to relatives who care for children. Many of the children in these kin placements are involved in the child welfare system, and the TANF office developed this program to prevent placement in traditional non-kin foster care. Such comprehensive support for these relative cases did not exist prior to welfare reform.

To assist kin caring for relative children, the child welfare and TANF agencies in Mobile County, Alabama, jointly developed a kinship care pilot project using only TANF money. The relative caregiver receives additional services to support the placement and to keep the child out of foster care. Program administrators plan to expand the program to include families caring for relative children and receiving TANF but not involved with child welfare.

Florida's state legislature established a program using TANF funds to provide a payment greater than the TANF child-only payment but less than the foster care payment to kin caring for children who have been abused or neglected. To be eligible for the increased payment, a home study must be completed. Unfortunately, much of this money was unspent because kinship caregivers did not want to be involved with the child welfare agency.

A large proportion of kinship families experience economic hardship. The TANF agency has the experience and financial resources to assist these low-income families. Welfare reform has encouraged the two agencies to work together. Initial evidence indicates that collaborative efforts between child welfare and TANF workers can improve access to services for kinship families.

For more information see "Welfare Reform and Opportunities for Collaboration between Welfare and Child Welfare Agencies" by Jennifer Ehrle, Karin Malm, Lynne Fender, and Roseana Bess (http://newfederalism.urban.org/html/occa53.html) and "Children Cared for by Relatives: Who Are They and How are They Faring? By Jennifer Ehrle, Rob Geen, and Rebecca Clark (http://newfederalism.urban.org/html/series_b/b28/b28.html).

LITTLE BROTHERS, *continued from page 8*

the other hand, the elderly found that having a relationship with children allowed them to recapture some of the fun of childhood, as soon they were participating in the pranks and practical jokes of the young.

Together this group of eleven created some meaningful bridges between the generations, leaving the elderly with a feeling of self-worth and the children with an appreciation of the aged.

For more information call on this or other programs through Little Brothers: Friends of the Elderly, call 312-455-1000.

Generations United Program Update

By: Sheri Y. Steinig
Program Director

Program Database - Now On-Line!

GU is a national resource for the collection and dissemination of information on all types of intergenerational programs. Our database of program information is accessible to individuals or groups interested in creating, expanding, or participating in a variety of programs and coalitions.

GU is excited to report that our intergenerational program database is now available on-line at www.gu.org. You can search for programs by name, city, state, or category. In addition to getting valuable information on intergenerational programs, you will also be able to add your program to the database. The database currently features over 350 different intergenerational programs.

Over the past few months we added many new programs, but know that there are still many programs that should be included. We are still looking for information on organizations and programs that incorporate intergenerational approaches for our intergenerational program database. If you would like to be featured in our database, please visit the program database page of the GU website or contact Generations United.

Project SPARC

Generations United's Project SPARC (Seniors: Powerful & Active Resources in Communities) promotes senior service and older adults as assets in their communities. As part of this initiative GU will share in *Together* facts about older adult volunteerism, tips for engaging older adults in service, and stories of success. The second installment features some tips on recruiting older adults volunteers.

Older Adult Recruitment

Outreach is the single most critical factor in successful recruitment of older adult participants.

- *Be proactive in locating older adults who are isolated and outside of the mainstream. Work with churches to find isolated older adults, create a mechanism for friend and family referrals, and work with professionals who have an inside track on older adults in the community who are alone and isolated.*
- *Reach out to older people of color - they are often not asked as frequently as white older adults.*
- *Identify older adult congregation points including senior centers, restaurants, grocery stores, service and membership groups, and religious institutions. Post materials and arrange to speak with older adults.*
- *Connect with National Senior Service Corps programs in the community (RSVP, Foster Grandparents and Senior Companions) -visit http://www.seniorcorps.org for more information.*
- *Avoid stereotypes and myths. Keep an open mind about what seniors can and want to do.*
- *Include specific references about roles for older adults, as well as training and guidance in recruitment and promotional information.*
- *In promotional information, use photos, quotes, and other images of older adults and young persons working and sharing together.*
- *During presentations, discuss the need for older adult partners and what the program hopes to offer both the participants and the community. Like all people, older adults are interested in experiences that are meaningful and that offer a sense of purpose, fellowship, satisfaction, challenges, and avenues to contribute to their community.*
- *Encourage questions and comments from each individual or group with whom you speak.*
- *All older adults bring a lifetime of skills and experiences. Do not just look for retired professionals.*
- *Work with each candidate to identify what he or she has strong feelings about or attachments to. Offer ideas about how participation will help to meet those interests.*
- *Identify and engage the personal goals, hopes, and aspirations all individuals, old and young, bring to the program. People will be more likely to stay involved when they feel their skills are valued and used.*
- *Ask older adults, who currently volunteer, to give presentations and to help to recruit friends, neighbors, or peers by word of mouth.*
- *Network with groups in your community and ask what methods are most successful for them. Share your own tips with them in turn.*
- *Encourage and recognize the value of the older adults and their volunteer service.*
- *Consider offering stipends or reimbursements for costs of volunteering (transportation, lunch, supplies, etc.)*
- *Be Creative.*

Tips from Generations United's publication Young and Old Serving Together: Meeting Community Needs Through Intergenerational Partnerships.

Project SHARE

Generations United's Project SHARE (Sharing Helps All Resources Expand) is a field building initiative designed to advance policy and practice related to intergenerational shared sites and shared resources. Project SHARE is generously supported by the Helen Benedict Foundation. The primary components of Project SHARE are: convening a national expert symposium

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Census Reveals 4.5 Million Children Live in Grandparent-Maintained Households

By Maggie Troope Biscarr,
Assistant Director, GU's National Center on Grandparents and Other Relatives Raising Children

The 2000 U.S. Census revealed that nationally there are 4.5 million children under the age of 18 living in grandparent-maintained households, and another 1.5 million children under 18 living in other relative-maintained households. State specific information is also available; however, the U.S. Census Bureau has not yet released information on how many of those households are also inhabited by the parent of the child. The U.S. Census Bureau will release more data on these families over the course of the next year.

In the meantime, there is data available from another large-scale survey called the Census 2000 Supplementary Survey. This survey has a sample size of approximately 700,000 households and was conducted throughout 2000, independently of the decennial census. It used the same questionnaire and methodology as the American Community Survey, which is another yearly supplement to the decennial census. Its results have been found to be comparable to those of the 2000 U.S. Census.

The 2000 Supplementary Survey revealed that there were between 2.3 and 2.4 million grandparent caregivers in the United States, and that three-fourths of them were responsible for most of the basic needs of their grandchildren for a year or more. About 35 percent were responsible for their grandchildren's needs for 5 years or more. It also revealed that grandmothers outnumbered grandfathers as caregivers by 5 to 3. About three-fourths of grandparent caregivers were currently married. Over half of them were still in the work-force (Bryson, 2001, report given at GU's International Conference).

These numbers confirm what most professionals working with these families have suspected. The numbers are on the rise, the caregiving situations are often long-term, there are more grandmothers than grandfathers doing this, and most of them are still working.

For the most recent data from the Census 2000 Supplementary Survey visit www.census.gov/c2ss/www, or by e-mail at c2ss@census.gov. For a release schedule of the 2000 Census data visit http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/releaseschedule.html Table P28, "Relationship by Household Type for the Population Under 18 Years" is available at www.gu.org in the Kinship Care section.

PROGRAM UPDATE, *continued from page 10*

on intergenerational shared sites and shared resources, publishing and disseminating a monograph based on the symposium, collecting profiles on models programs, and providing training and technical assistance. This action agenda will include key recommendations for policymakers, advocates, community organizations, and other leaders who want to promote, develop, and expand intergenerational shared sites and share resources in communities across the country. Generations United will release the monograph based on the symposium in March of 2002. Stay tuned to the GU website, www.gu.org for more information.

For more information on Project SPARC, Project SHARE, the intergenerational program database, or to request a copy of the format to submit a program profile, please contact Sheri Steinig at 202-638-1263 or mail to: ssteinig@gu.org.

Do you work with an intergenerational shared site program? Does your program serve children, youth, and older adults in the same building or campus?
If the answer is YES, then we are looking for you.
GU is compiling profiles on model intergenerational shared site programs. Please contact Sheri Steinig at 202-638-1263 for more information.

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Generations United International Conference, 2001:

Generations United Awards Dinner

By Donna M. Rawls
KinNET Coordinator

One of the highlights of the 2001 Generations United (GU) international conference was the 12th annual awards dinner hosted by the master of ceremonies for the evening, Irv Katz, Executive Director of The National Assembly of Health and Human Service and GU Board member.

During this dinner event, which attracted over 150 people, GU was very pleased to present seven awards, including the new AARP Grandparent award. Awards included the following:

•The Leadership Award for Outstanding Support of Intergenerational Programs: Presented to The Grandfathers Group Mentoring Program, this award honors individuals or organizations that have made significant contributions to the leadership, growth and prosperity of intergenerational understanding. The Grandfathers Group Mentoring Program is part of The Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) and the Campagna Center in Alexandria, VA. The program recruits and trains senior African-American men to serve as "Grandfather" mentors to African-American boys, whose fathers are not available for support or guidance. The Leadership Award was accepted by Joan Dale, Coordinator of the Grandfathers Group, John Duckett, a grandfather mentor; and Tiroune Oates, Mr. Duckett's mentee.

Joan Dale, John Duckett and Tiroune Oates, accept the Leadership Award for Outstanding Support of Intergenerational Programs

•The Steven L. Tunick Award for Outstanding Achievement in Intergenerational Programming: Presented to W.J. "Bill" Little, this award was founded in memory of Steve Tunick, a mentor, trainer and resource for those in the intergenerational field. It is given to an individual for exceptional service in intergenerational programming. This year's recipient, W.J. "Bill" Little, is the founder of the Senior Education Corps (SEC). This program operates in 53 counties in North Carolina, linking the talents and experience of senior adults with the needs of school children.

•The Outstanding Youth Volunteer Award was presented to Rashida Jolley. This award honors an individual, age 23 or younger, who has made an outstanding contribution to an intergenerational program. Rashida, Miss District of Columbia 2000, developed a program that linked at risk youth with older adults. Through her reign as Miss District of

Members of the Dutch delegation to the GU conference pictured above with Sheri Steinig and Donna Butts

"Intergenerational Approaches: Not Just Nice...Necessary"

Columbia, Rashida helped bring local and national attention to the importance of intergenerational programs.

•The Outstanding Older Adult Volunteer Award was presented to Thelma Murray. This award honors an individual, age 60 or older, who has made an outstanding contribution to an intergenerational program. For more than ten years, Thelma has been working with special-needs children on a voluntary basis. Through Family Friends in Omaha, NE, Thelma provides free respite care for families with special-needs children.

Rep. Connie Morella (center) accepts the Jack Ossofsky Award pictured here with Donna Butts and Bob Blancato

Rashida Jolley Miss District of Columbia 2000 plays harp during the GU awards program.

•The AARP Grandparent Award was presented to Drs. Mary Brintnall-Peterson and Dena Targ. This new award was established to honor a professional or a relative raising kin who has made an outstanding contribution to the field of grandparents and other relatives raising children. Dr. Mary Brintnall-Peterson, Program Specialist in Aging at the University of Wisconsin-Extension, and Dr. Dena Targ, Extension Specialist in Human Development at Purdue Extension, are the leaders of two national satellite videoconferences for grandparent caregivers. These conferences provided essential information for organizations and individuals seeking to provide services to grandparents as well as other relatives raising children. The videoconferences were made possible through the participation of partnering organizations such as AARP, the Brookdale Foundation, the Child Welfare League of America, and Generations United, as well as the primary support of the University of Wisconsin-Extension and Purdue Extension. GU is honored that Dr. Alma Hobbs, Deputy Administrator of 4-H and Nutrition, The Cooperative State Research, Education and Extension Service, USDA, accepted the award on behalf of Drs. Mary Brintnall-Peterson and Dena Targ.

•The Warren Featherbone Foundation Award for Innovation in Connecting the Generations was presented to Shelia Sears. This award recognizes individuals who creatively connect the generations and foster understanding and appreciation in ways that recognize the strength of each generation. Shelia, Executive Director of Senior Citizens Services in Mobile, AL, has made intergenerational activities a common practice in her senior program development. Shelia has initiated and fostered the growth of intergenerational programs at a rate of more than one new program per year and initiated the first Intergenerational Month in Mobile, AL.

•The Jack Ossofsky Award for Lifetime Achievement in Support of Children, Youth and the Elderly was presented to Congresswoman Connie Morella (R-MD). This award celebrates the lifetime achievements of an individual whose efforts benefit both the young and the old. It is a lasting tribute to Jack Ossofsky, who was Executive Director of the National Council on the Aging, and one of the co-founders and early leaders of Generations United. Congresswoman Connie Morella, re-elected in 2000 to an eighth term, represents Maryland's Eighth District. As a co-chair of the Older

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Generations United International Conference, 2001:

2001 Generations United Conference - Pre-Conference Intensives

Intergenerational Programs: Inside and Out

By Robyn McBroom
Intergenerational Coordinator
LifeLink

This year's pre-conference intensive, Intergenerational Programs: Inside and Out, provided an opportunity for those who could not attend the full conference to have an intensive, one-day experience. Over 60 participants attended this workshop which provided the opportunity to learn about different program models, gain new programming skills, and explore future possibilities. Topics included evaluation, building partnerships, recruiting and retaining volunteers, fundraising, and marketing.

Responding to the common need for funding and volunteers, presenters discussed ways to incorporate fundraising and promotional tactics into their traditional responsibilities to encourage support. They offered ideas for finding, motivating, and keeping volunteers, in addition to building volunteer commitment to the program's mission.

The day included presentations by the following intergenerational experts from around the country: Carrie Jefferson-Smith, Syracuse University; Vicki Rosebrook, University of Findlay; Chuck Larson, Seagull Schools; Rob Tietze, Temple University Center for Intergenerational Learning; Maureen Statland, University of Illinois Extension; Donna Butts, and Todd Crenshaw, National Education Association-Retired. The presenters did an excellent job of sharing their expertise with participants.

We are especially grateful to Dr. Jefferson-Smith, who stepped in at the very last moment to share her expertise in program evaluation and lead the discussion on evaluating intergenerational programs.

Participants remarked: "This training provided excellent opportunities to meet other professionals in the intergenerational field." "It helped me gain exposure to programs like mine across the country." "I like the interactive nature of the training and left feeling refueled."

The pre-conference allowed for more interaction, networking and discussions to take place among presenters and practitioners in smaller, more focused groups. It also provided insights into the current priority issues for many practitioners here in the U.S. and around the world.

Grandparents and Other Relatives Raising Children: Supportive Programs and Public Policies

By Maggie Troope Biscarr
Assistant Director,
National Center on Grandparents and Other Relatives Raising Children

GU's 2001 International Intergenerational Conference included a track on grandparents and other relatives raising children. With over 50 professionals in attendance, the track began with a bang on Wednesday, October 10th, with an all-day pre-conference intensive on the issues related to relative caregiving.

During this full-day intensive, presenters and participants explored reasons for the increase in relative caregiving. The event highlighted background issues and current model policy and programmatic responses from around the country.

Amy Goyer, from AARP's Grandparent Information Center, began by giving participants an overview complete with demographics, statistics, issues, and needs. Next, Ana Beltran, of Generations United described the various types of laws that affect relative-headed families. Following Ana's concluding remarks regarding Open Adoption laws, Sharon McKinley, from the Child Welfare League of America, picked up by presenting the ins and outs of Kinship Adoption. Clare Hushbeck, of AARP's State Affairs Office, then provided helpful information on visitation laws as they affect grandparents and grandchildren.

Following lunch, Dr. Jack Westman from the University of Wisconsin Medical School, prepared participants for the programmatic portion of the day by sharing his expertise on the mental health needs of both the caregivers and the children in these families. MaryLee Allen, of the Children's Defense Fund (CDF), reported on a national study conducted by CDF of grandparents' access to health insurance coverage on behalf of the children they are raising. Next, Janet Sainer, a representative from the Brookdale Foundation, gave participants information about Brookdale's Relatives As Parents Program (RAPP) and the mini-grants offered annually. Maggie Biscarr of GU, followed by

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"Intergenerational Approaches: Not Just Nice...Necessary"

Intergenerational Programmes and Policies: International Perspective on Essential Strategies

Jaia Peterson
Public Policy Coordinator

"We find that regardless of where we come from, all human beings share the same basic needs for respect, for communication, for love and security. Intergenerational programs, in every part of the world, provide children and elders with a better chance to meet these human needs." proclaimed Dr. Helia Molina, Regional Advisor on Child and Family Health, Pan American Health Organization, World Health Organization, as she spoke at the opening plenary session of the GU International Conference in October.

INTENSIVES, *continued from page 14*

providing an overview of the behavioral health/RAPP initiative that GU and Brookdale have been working on since 1998. One of the behavioral health RAPP sites was represented that day by Carol Rabideau from Family and Children's Service in Nashville, Tennessee. Carol shared with participants the exciting evolution of her program from its roots as a support group with GU seed grant funding to its current incarnation as a TANF-funded Relative Caregiver Program with pilot projects in 3 locations. Donna Rawls of GU presented on another GU/Brookdale collaborative, KinNET, which is a national network of support groups for relatives caring for kin in the foster care system.

Wrapping up the day, an energetic and passionate Sandra Campbell-Jackson shared with participants valuable information about running a resource center. Sandy is the Executive Director of Grand Central, which is a comprehensive Resource Center for grandparents and other relatives raising children, and is the only one serving the entire Philadelphia area. Her energy and humor were the perfect end to a daylong, information-packed intensive. Afterwards, many participants stuck around to network with one another and to ask questions of presenters. Written and verbal comments from participants were very positive. Many people indicated that they planned to get started on expanding their programs or starting new ones upon their return home.

"More and more, we are gathering evidence, that intergenerational programs contribute to the new civic connections our society so badly needs."

-Kees Penninx

Joining Dr. Molina was Kees Penninx, Senior Consultant, Netherlands Institute of Care and Welfare, The Netherlands and Alan Hatton-Yeo, Chief Executive, Beth Johnson Foundation, United Kingdom. Coming from across the world, these international guests reflected on the events of September 11th and the important role of intergenerational programming in light of the tragedy.

"It may be time for action," said Penninx, "But it certainly is a time of reflection. The world is confused. Separatism, fear, and violence are disconnecting people that were once connected. . . . More and more, we are gathering evidence, that intergenerational programs contribute to the new civic connections our society so badly needs. If we can mobilize the strength of one generation for the welfare of another, and if research and practice prove that all generations benefit, then we are really going to make a difference." Penninx went on to describe the components of the three-year national action program in the Netherlands, "The Neighbourhood for All Ages", which promotes community building according to intergenerational standards.

Alan Hatton-Yeo reflected, "Events in recent weeks demonstrate all to powerfully the awful potential for harm of fragmentation and misunderstanding. Whatever the future holds in the UK, we believe that the world our children grow up into needs to be grounded in understanding and respect." He described the UK Centre for Intergenerational Practice which strives to meet this goal by promoting and nurturing partnership, recognition, support and exchange between age groups. Hatton-Yeo explained, "Intergenerational practice can help community

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Generations United International Conference, 2001:

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Americans Caucus, Congresswoman Morella has long been involved with issues affecting older Americans. She has sponsored multiple Generations United briefings on intergenerational issues and has been a leader in working with the co-chairs of the Older Americans and Children's Caucuses. As a former co-chair of the Congressional Caucus for Women's Issues, she is recognized nationally for her work on children's issues, domestic violence, and women's health, educational and economic equity issues. She has consistently shown strong support for grandparents and other relatives raising children as well. She and her husband, Tony, a law professor, have raised nine children, including her late sister's six children.

During a pre-dinner reception and a moment of remembrance for the victims of September 11th, Rashida Jolley provided harp music. The Rainbow Cultural Group, an intergenerational Nigerian group based in the Washington, DC metropolitan area, entertained the audience during dinner with a culturally rich dance and drumming performance.

The Rainbow Cultural Group, an intergenerational Nigerian dance group, performs during GU Award dinner

GU Welcomes New Staff

Cara Goldstein

Cara Goldstein, the latest addition to Generation United's staff, has fulfilled a newly created position, the Technical Assistance Coordinator for GU's National Center on Grandparents and Other Relatives Raising Children. Cara is responsible for coordinating technical assistance such as responding to information requests and maintaining the Kinship Care section of the GU web page. In addition, Cara will coordinate a national survey to assess the training needs of the aging network on issues related to grandparents and other relatives raising children and will update and maintain resources concerning these caregivers from around the country.

A recent graduate from Virginia Tech, Cara received her B.S. in Psychology with a concentration in Gerontological studies. Cara is a firm believer in the importance of intergenerational programs and can personally attest to the benefits of the "Learn and Serve" program due to her participation as a service learner at the Virginia Tech Adult Day Services center. It was during this program that she was introduced to intergenerational activities and noticed the strategy was effective for building caring, inclusive and engaged communities.

Following graduation, Cara served as an intern at the Alzheimer's Association National Public Policy Office where she became further interested and familiar with a range of aging policy issues. Through her work with Generations United, Cara hopes to build on her positive experiences with intergenerational programs and policies by helping to promote them.

"Intergenerational Approaches: Not Just Nice...Necessary"

Legacy: Seen Through Dutch Eyes

By Corine van Rijswijk
Campaign manager "The neighborhood of all ages" Netherlands Institute of Care and Welfare (NIZW)

During the GU's international conference in October, a Dutch delegation attended the closing plenary session on the film *Legacy*. *Legacy* chronicles the Collins family who for four generations were trapped in urban poverty, depending upon welfare and living in one of the oldest and most dangerous public housing projects in America – Chicago's Henry Horner Homes. The film tells the inspiring story of how members of one African-American family overcome addiction and escape the specter of violence in their community. I had the opportunity to watch the complete film. How is the film seen through Dutch eyes?

"You have to believe in yourself. You have to depend on yourself, because you know where you want to go, no one else knows where you want to go, but you." These are the words of Nikky, fifteen years old. Young and determined to achieve something in life. Believe in yourself, if not, you will not survive. Maybe this is the strongest message of the film. The women of the family – grandmother Dorothy, Nikky's mother Alaissa, her aunt Wanda and Nikky- succeed in improving their situation on their own and in realizing their dreams. An inspiring example of empowerment. In the Netherlands empowerment forms an important aspect of social policy aimed at giving underprivileged people new chances.

This bond between people of different generations is universal and because of that Legacy will certainly appeal to a Dutch audience.

In the United States the film is used as an instrument to motivate professionals working on community action. The website www.legacy.com shows several examples and ideas. You cannot use the film in the Netherlands in the same way as the Dutch context differs in many ways. In our country poverty is a relative notion. Here the poverty of the Collins family is a rare exception. Violence in the streets is also less severe and children do not risk being killed, like Terrel, Nikky's cousin. Unlike the Unites States, it is not common for grandparents to raise their grandchildren in the Netherlands. Yet there are also similarities between the countries. The lack of cooperation from social authorities is a familiar situation. We see Alaissa, Nickcole's mother, try to find a job and someone to take care of her children. It is not possible to arrange and Alaissa looses her job before even starting.

The film *Legacy* makes a deep impression on me as a Dutch viewer. Through the film you get to know people who live in a desperate situation and the other side of 'the wealth of America'. But above all, *Legacy* inspires: if you want, you can reach your goals. The film moves by showing the close tie of friendship between grandmother Dorothy and granddaughter Nikky. When Nikky graduates at High School, the world stops moving for a moment as Dorothy embraces her grand-daughter. The proud gratitude and happiness leave a lasting image with the viewer. This bond between people of different generations is universal and because of that *Legacy* will certainly appeal to a Dutch audience.

The closing plenary session featured Tod Lending, the filmmaker of *Legacy*, who spoke about making the film and the powerful role of documentary films in supporting social change. Nickcole spoke about important role of her grandmother and other mentors in her life. Denise Thomas of Outreach Extensions, an organization that does outreach for the film, shared information about how to acquire Legacy materials and schedule Tod and members of the Collins family to speak at local events. Larry Minnix, President of the American Association of Homes and Services for the Aging, moderated the event.

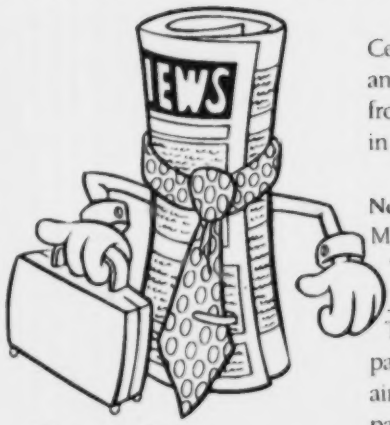
"The neighborhood of all ages" is national program at the Netherlands Institute of Care and Welfare (NIZW). This three-year program is aimed at enhancing intergenerational work in the Netherlands. For more information contact Corine van Rijswijk at c.vanrijswijk@nizw.nl

For more information about Legacy, contact Generations United at 202-638-1263 or email gu@gu.org.

In the Media

Generations United has been in the media bringing greater visibility to intergenerational issues. Recently Generations United was in the following newspapers and radio and television programs:

November 10th
San Diego Union-Tribune, "People raising grandkids share housing plight," highlights testimony of Donna Butts and Martha Rawlings, a grandmother raising her children. Both spoke about the housing needs of grandparents raising children before a 14 member panel established by Congress to address senior housing and health facility needs for the 21st century.



November 19th
WCPN, Ohio Public Radio, Maggie Troope Biscarr participated in a segment of part of a 10-part series on kinship care, "They Call Me Mama." The segment focused on housing issues and alternatives for grandparents and other relatives raising children. Also interviewed for the segment were Stephanie Fallcreek from the Fairhill Center in Cleveland, Ohio, and Stephanie Chacker, from Grandfamilies House in Boston, Massachusetts.

November 22nd
Maryland Public Television, "Direct Connection with Jeff Saulkin." Maggie Troope Biscarr participated in a segment aired on Thanksgiving as part of the series "Family Week." The segment focused primarily on grandparents and other relatives raising children. Also interviewed during this segment were Pat Owens, grandparent and founder of the Frederick County chapter of Grandparents As Parents, and Luke Frazier, Executive Director of the Maryland State Service Alliance.

December 4th, 2001
The Washington Post, "For Seniors and Kids, A Way to Bond," describes Generations United as a national resource for information on intergenerational programs and policies. Donna Butts describes types of intergenerational programs and the importance of older and younger being connected in the community.

December 29th, 2001
WGAU, (News Talk 1340 AM), US Senior Show in Athens, GA. Ana Beltran discussed issues affecting grandparents raising children.

For information about how to read or listen to these article/segments, contact Generations United at gu@gu.org.

Say Cheese and Start Taking Pictures!

Generations United is pleased to announce our second Intergenerational Photography Contest sponsored by the MetLife Foundation. Like last year's contest, we are looking for the best photographs taken by a younger or older person of younger and older people together that capture the power and beauty of intergenerational relationships. For more information or to get a copy of the contest entry form visit the GU website at www.gu.org or contact GU at 202/638-1263 or gu@gu.org.

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In Memoriam: Fred Ramstedt

GU is saddened to announce the passing of Fred Ramstedt, founder of Intergenerational Week, recipient of GU's "Special Pioneer" award, long-time member of GU and columnist for Together. Fred passed away on October 30, 2001 in San Francisco. He was 95 years old.

At age 84, inspired by a friendship with a nine-year-old boy, Fred Ramstedt's pioneering efforts led to the founding of Intergenerational Week, a weeklong celebration of the generations that begins on the third Sunday in May between Mother's Day and Father's Day. Fred's passion for this week of intergenerational activities and celebrations led to his authoring Celebrating the Generations, A guidebook to Intergenerational Week. The guidebook was printed in the Fall of 2001 and is now available at cost through Generations United.

In 1999 Generations United honored Fred with the "Special Pioneer Award" for his intergenerational vision, energy and accomplishments through the establishment of Intergenerational Week. Unable to attend the ceremony, Fred sent a video acceptance speech during which he inspired all attendees to recite the intergenerational pledge with him in unison.

At age 84, inspired by a friendship with a nine-year-old boy, Fred Ramstedt's pioneering efforts led to the founding of Intergenerational Week, a weeklong celebration of the generations that begins on the third Sunday in May between Mother's Day and Father's Day.

Fred was an amazing man. His vision, tenacity and driven spirit helped to make his dream a reality." Said Donna Butts "While other celebrations may come and go, Intergenerational Week will remain the original idea of a man who took the difficult steps to turn a vision into reality. A reality that makes our communities and ultimately our world a better place. Fred we salute you and thank you for all you have done to promote the important concept that intergenerational approaches are not just nice but necessary."

Throughout the years Fred has been fortunate to have the support of two incredible women. Jeannine Drew is a gifted editor who met Fred 10 years ago when he was recruiting someone to help him with is writing. The original project has long since ended but their friendship grew steadily and was long-lasting. His wife of 63 years, Louise, has stood by and encouraged Fred in his efforts. Louise has asked for donations in Fred's memory to go to GU to support Intergenerational Week. Fred was a passionate believer in the necessity of intergenerational work. He will be greatly missed.

Generations United would like to thank several individuals who have made donations to date in memory of Fred: Alice Serrahn, Myra Belle Miller, Donna Butts, Mary Shoemaker, Sally Case, Louise Ramstedt, Mr. & Mrs Ian Godbolt, Mr. & Mrs. Robert Patrick

Generations United Mission

To foster intergenerational collaboration on public policy and programs to improve the lives of children, youth and the elderly.

Vision:

A society that values all generations.

Core Beliefs:

We believe the time has come for advocates for children, youth and older persons to work together to build and support a common agenda. Each generation has unique strengths to help meet the need of another. Efforts to create more decent societies rest on the interdependence of generations – past, living, and still to come. Further we believe:

- *Intergenerational collaboration will unite and improve our communities*
- *Every person, younger and older, is a resource and adds value.*
- *Public policy should meet the needs of all generations*
- *Resources are more wisely used when they connect the generations rather than separate them*
- *Discrimination in any form limits a person's potential to contribute to the development of their community*
- *Grandparents and other relatives who step forward to raise children are providing an invaluable service to their families and our country.*

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Charities agencies nationwide are committed to meeting the increasing need for services and support...Our work extends long after the physical wounds of disaster have healed, providing hope and support as long as the need is there."

Reflecting on the response of older adults and organizations serving them, Larry Minnix, president and CEO, American Association of Homes and Services for the Aging explains, "In the days following September 11th, I was particularly touched by the support our members received from the seniors they care for. I heard many stories of younger caregivers being comforted by residents, whose wisdom imparted hope and security. I was equally struck by the dedication of our members, who worked tirelessly to ensure residents' needs were met. The overwhelming spirit of generosity renewed my faith that, together, we can create the healthy, affordable, ethical long-term care system our nation deserves."

Immediately after September 11th, Shay Bilchik reflected on the importance of a community-oriented response by the Child Welfare League of America, "As is true in so many aspects of our lives, our strength lies in our connections to others. It is what makes the League so strong in its work on behalf of children, youth and families. It is why I encourage you to keep these relationships strong. Together—with family, friends, neighbors and co-workers—we can work through this disaster and emerge as a more compassionate, united and powerful society. We have already seen signs of that stronger sense of 'us' in how we are reaching out to take care of each other."

Intergenerational Implications of September 11th

Experience and Knowledge of Older People

In the aftermath of the tragic events of September 11th, the role older people play or can play in the lives of children and youth takes on new meaning. Under difficult circumstances, elders can be "time witnesses" offering continuity, comfort, and calm. They can provide emotional support, extra attention, and offer a historical perspective that helps those younger to develop the awareness, self-confidence and coping skills needed to overcome horrendous experiences and obstacles. They have experienced life-changing events and periods of threat from abroad. Their stories of triumph and survival can provide hope and perspective to current events. The presence of older adults in schools and communities reassures children that there are caring adults in their lives. Older adults can promote cultural exchange and understanding by sharing cultural traditions and values. Older people gain a sense of purpose from the exchange, which helps them feel connected to their community and of service to their country in troubled times.

> *"In the days following September 11th, I was particularly touched by the support our members received from the seniors they care for. I heard many stories of younger caregivers being comforted by residents, whose wisdom imparted hope and security."*
>
> – Larry Minnix

Grandparents and Other Relatives

Many children are estimated to have lost one or both parents in the violence. As our country calls up military reservists to active duty and deploys troops overseas, many will leave children behind. In both cases the first line of support for many of these children grandparents and other relatives. Grandparents raising children face a variety of barriers related to housing, legal issues, educational enrollment, and access to physical and mental health care. Support groups, information and referral, respite, and financial assistance will be needed to help the young and old cope with their changed circumstances. More information about issues affecting grandparents raising children is available on the GU website at www.gu.org.

The New Rosie the Riveter

During World War II when American men were called to fight overseas, women came out of their homes and into positions that held our country and communities together. Today women are more likely to already be working out of the home and serving in the military. The weavers of our social fabric—the continuity in our communities—will be the old and the young. Older people are able to contribute, putting traditional retirement roles aside, to aid businesses, fill positions, and use their skills to help ensure a seamless transition in the daily functioning of our communities.

Opportunities For Innovative Intergenerational Approaches

Time Witness and Dialogue Programs

Older people have

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SEPTEMBER 11
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survived world tragedies and difficult times. They are living testimony to the resilience of the human spirit. They have seen America fight, lose, and win. Our seniors can provide a calm, reassuring voice for younger people struggling to put events in context or doubting their own futures.

One intergenerational project in Germany brings older adults, who are called time witnesses, into schools to talk about the Holocaust and their experiences. In New York, Elders Share the Arts developed the "Pearls of Wisdom" project where elder storytellers transform personal experience and memories and share stories of struggle, triumph, passion and hope to a wide range of audiences. These programs help to pass on human stories and living history to another generation.

Whether in school or community settings, dialogues between the generations can help older generations feel connected and of service while offering stability to children and youth. As America learns to cope and move on, our elders have important and unique roles to play in helping our country heal. An intergenerational dialogue could bring older adults from the community into local schools to share their experiences, wisdom, and expertise with children and youth. The dialogue can be a dynamic discussion where elders and youth come together to listen, exchange and focus on issues related to September 11th and other significant historical events.

In San Diego, the Veterans Home hosted young people from the community for dialogue and dinner. The students shared their fears, concerns, and hopes for coping with the "War on Terrorism," while the Veteran residents explained how they found the strength and courage to press on through past national crises like Pearl Harbor and WWII.

The intergenerational response to the tragic events of September 11th provides a new and different opportunity for intergenerational initiatives, older adult engagement, and community service that could be sustained for long-term positive outcomes for schools and communities.

Jim Gambone and Sue Gehrz of Minnesota have developed the Homeland Security Intergenerational Dialogue Toolkit to help communities come together to address issues of safety and security. Their dialogue held in Falcon Heights, Minnesota, brought together over 85 people of all ages to discuss what "homeland security" means in their neighborhood. The group came up with 188 suggestions to make their community safer.

Teaching Tolerance

Intergenerational approaches can be used to teach understanding and tolerance. In response to September 11th, The Communication Project designed an intergenerational peace chain project. Young and old together decorate strips of paper in any way they wish with a message or picture of peace. The power of this activity lies in the discussion that takes place as children, youth, and older adults share what they put on their paper strip and why. The strips are joined together to form a paper peace chain that can be displayed to represent remembrance, healing, and hope.

Several other program models currently exist including one in which young Americans working with older immigrants learn about cultural difference while helping seniors transition to new communities. In another, older volunteers help young new comers with English and social habits while discovering the richness of their diverse backgrounds. Elders Share the Arts conducts a number of workshops called "Generating Community" where old and young engage in a process of exploring each other's stories and cultural backgrounds and of discovering commonalities across age and culture. Stories are often transformed in to dramatic presentations or visual art.

Federal Homeland Security Initiatives

In his address to the nation in November, President Bush announced that the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) will support homeland security in 2002 in three major areas: public safety, public health, and disaster mitigation. In December, Congress appropriated five million dollars for a new "Volunteers in Homeland Security" initiative under the National Service Corps and AmeriCorps, both under CNCS. Many Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) volunteers have already engaged in activities that help free up police and other security personal to focus their efforts more specifically on homeland security. RSVP is one of several volunteer programs that fall under the umbrella of Senior Corps. Since the program's inception 30 years ago, RSVP volunteers have assisted with public health and public safety programs. Relevant services have ranged from programs where RSVP volunteers help assure

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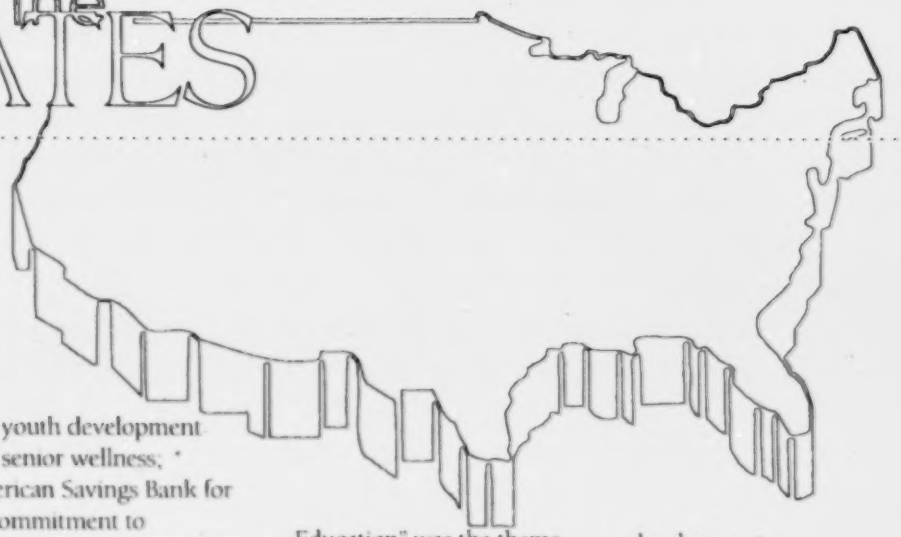
News from the STATES



HAWAII

In August, Hawaii Intergenerational Network held its Second Annual Conference, "Bridging Cultures for Intergenerational Collaborations." The three-day conference, which was co-sponsored by Seagull Schools Inc, opened with a welcome from Mazie Hirono, Lt. Governor, State of Hawaii. Among the highlights from the full agenda of programming was a report and panel response to Seniors Volunteers as Assets: A Statewide Survey of Hawaiian Seniors. Additional sessions and concurrent workshops ranged in focus including topics such as: International, National and Local Visions for Intergenerational Work; Creating a Policy Agenda; Community and School Resources through the Corporation for National Service; and Community-based Intergenerational Programs.

The Keiki Kupuna Awards recognized: Senator Suzie Chun-Oakland for her dedication to building a system of services to help support healthy children and youth development and senior wellness; " American Savings Bank for its commitment to programs and projects that benefit all ages; Rene Nakama who has worked with hundreds of foster grandparents since starting her work with the very first foster grandparent programs in 1965; and Wai'alae Elementary School for its support of the innovative Senior FELLOWS program.

For a complete copy of the conference report call 808-261-8534 or visit www.hingeneration.org.

ILLINOIS

15TH AND 10TH ANNIVERSARIES FOR ILLINOIS INTERGENERATIONAL AND LIFELONG PROGRAMS

By Jane Angelis Ph.D.
Director, Intergenerational Initiative
Editor, "Continuance"
A Magazine for All Generations

"It Takes a Community: Intergenerational Solutions to the Challenges of Education" was the theme of a November conference and anniversary celebration for Illinois Intergenerational and LifeLong Programs. The conference featured Assistant Secretary Carol D'Amico, US Department of Education who spoke on the importance of a quality education and said that the remediation rate of 30-40% in higher education is unacceptable. She pledges to ease the transitions between high school and higher education as well as find approaches that are successful to address the remediation challenge.

The conference also featured leaders of the three boards of education. Their message was clear: intergenerational programs are valuable assets for all levels of education. Students, educators, and older adults gave presentations on P-16+ service-learning, intergenerational relationships, lifelong learning, oral history, youth leadership, and workforce development.

The Intergenerational Initiative was founded in 1986 as a coalition of higher education, elementary and secondary, aging, and volunteer organizations. LifeLong, celebrating its 10th year, is an organization of community college and university coordinators of educational programs for older adults.
For further information, contact Jane Angelis, at ilii@siu.edu or visit www.siu.edu/offices/iii

WISCONSIN

by Bonnie Schmidt
Newsletter/Editorial Board Chair
Wisconsin Intergenerational Network

For the second year in a row, Wisconsin Intergenerational Network (WIN) held its Annual Meeting at the Coalition of Wisconsin Aging Groups (CWAG) Intergenerational Center, Madison, Wisconsin. Former WIN

Board member Eric Smith, Director of CESA2 (Cooperative Education Service Area) gave the opening remarks, "WIN has had a tremendous impact on the state and how it does intergenerational programming." He related how 20 years ago one did not hear the term "intergenerational" but today it is recognized as an important concept on which to build programming.

Bill Arthur, retiree and volunteer extraordinary was recognized for his on-going contribution to the WIN newsletter. In addition to his layout and design work for WIN, he volunteers for the UW-Madison Arboretum, RSVP of Dane County, ARC of Dane County - an advocacy group for the developmentally disabled and for Community Services Center, Inc.

The highlight of the meeting was the intergenerational panel presentation, which included four marvelous individuals sharing with us their intergenerational program experiences. Panelists included: Laura and Dan, two young volunteers from Montello Teenpower, where their youth group has cleaned up parks, visited the elderly and volunteered at community-wide events. Also on the panel were Bobbie and Mel, two adult volunteers who remarked that giving to our youth is central to their involvement in intergenerational programming. They believe we must share our lifetime of learning and experiences with the next generations. These two outstanding women said being able to use your potential and not make cookies all the time is their definition of a volunteer opportunity.

For more information about Wisconsin Intergenerational Network, contact (608) 224-0606, email info@wi-win.org or visit www.wi-win.org.

MICHIGAN

By Brian Vosburg
Project/Program Development Associate
Messiah Housing Corporation

After several years of in-depth research and neighborhood surveys done by interns and AmeriCorps fellows, Messiah Housing Corporation, in partnership with Adult Well Being Services, has officially begun the process of making housing for grandparents raising grandchildren a reality in Detroit. The first meeting of the advisory group met in January and was made up of local service professionals and grandparent caregivers. The advisory group will help assess the current resources for grandparent headed households and then strategize on what this specialized housing should entail.

Messiah Housing Corporation and Adult Well Being Services will be partnering to build a 30-unit apartment complex for grandparent caregivers and their families. Messiah Housing will draw from over 20 years of experience in developing and managing affordable housing and Adult Well Being Services will contribute its nationally recognized programs for grandparents raising grandchildren. The target date for the groundbreaking is the Spring of 2003.

Another program of interest (not related to Messiah Housing) is Grandparent's Days. The Cultural Coalition of Southeast Michigan has made it possible for grandparents and their grandchildren to attend an event at a local theatre, museum or cultural attraction for free. After the grandparents and grandchildren have picked from a list of 17 attractions, they then access a website or call a toll free number to have the tickets mailed to them.

For more information contact Brian Vosburg at 313-567-7966 x229 or email bvosburg@messiahhousing.com.

NEW MEXICO

To Grandma and Grandpa's House We Go

By Julie Holland
Kindergarten Teacher
Bradley George, School-Age Coordinator

Grandparents are an important part of a child's life. Due to the mobile nature of the military lifestyle, many children miss out on interacting with biological grandparents or other senior citizens. To fill in the "generation gap" the kindergarten children

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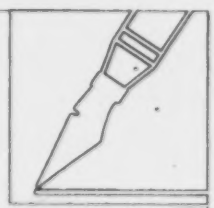

If you would like to receive timely legislative updates and alerts about what you can do to help pass intergenerational legislation, please contact Jaia Peterson by emailing jpeterson@gu.org or calling 202-638-1263.

KinNET Project Update

By Donna M. Rawls
KinNET Coordinator

As KinNET celebrates the completion of one successful year, GU looks forward to the continued to develop and provide technical assistance to this network of support groups for relatives who are raising kin in foster care. Thanks to continued funding from the Department of Health and Human Services' Children's Bureau, GU will be offering another round of mini-grants for 2002-2003.

Among the supports offered to grant participants, GU visits each site toward the end of their first year. In addition to providing recommendations, GU gathers valuable information to share with other sites about common problems, innovative programs ideas and successes. During a recent visit to Catholic Charities in Denver, CO, staff shared information about a recent project designed to empower the relative caregivers in their support groups to become their own advocates. Out of this, they developed a kinship lobby day, where Catholic Charities staff educated caregivers on who their state representatives are and how to contact them. Catholic Charities provided caregivers with tips on how to talk with legislators and developed a fact sheet outlining the major concerns of the caregivers. The organization eventually sent the fact sheet to all the state representatives. Catholic Charities was pleased that over 40 caregivers participated in their lobby day.

Funding

In November, KinNET released a Request For Proposals (RFP) for organizations seeking mini-grants of $10,000 each to establish support groups for relatives raising kin in foster care in 2002-2003. GU is offering ten of these mini-grants to local tax-exempt organizations across the country. For more information visit the GU webpage (www.gu.org).

For more information about KinNET, visit GU's website at www.gu.org or contact Donna Rawls, KinNET Coordinator, at drawls@gu.org or 202-638-1263.

Legislative Update: Grandparents and Other Relatives Raising Children

By Ana Beltran
Director, National Center on Grandparents and Other Relatives Raising Children

Idaho

In March 2001, the governor of Idaho signed into law a piece of subsidized guardianship legislation, HB 58. In Idaho, caregivers can now apply to obtain guardianship of children who are in state custody and be eligible for monthly subsidy payments. The program does not have any time requirements concerning how long the caregivers had to be raising the children before applying for the program. Most states with subsidized guardianship programs require children to be in state custody with a caregiver providing the care for at least six months to one year. The program, however, does have other significant requirements. Parental rights have to be terminated and adoption must be ruled out. State funds are used to pay for this program, which includes a cash payment to the caregiver of up to Idaho's foster care rate and non-recurring expenses for the legal guardianship procedure and the termination of parental rights.

As of October, Idaho had two children who were in the process of qualifying for this program. The program is administered through the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare, Division of Family and Community Services, Bureau of Family and Children's Services. As of October, the Department is in the process of developing regulations for the program, which will clarify other details about the program. In the interim, for further information, please contact Mary Brennan, who works for the Idaho Department, at 208-334-5697.

Missouri

During summer 2001, Missouri made some significant changes to its existing "Grandparents as Foster Parents" program. This program had provided relative caregivers, regardless of their income, the opportunity to become legal guardians or custodians of the children in their care and qualify for a monthly subsidy payment up to the state's foster care rate. The children did not need to be in state custody.

For budgetary reasons, Missouri has now made the

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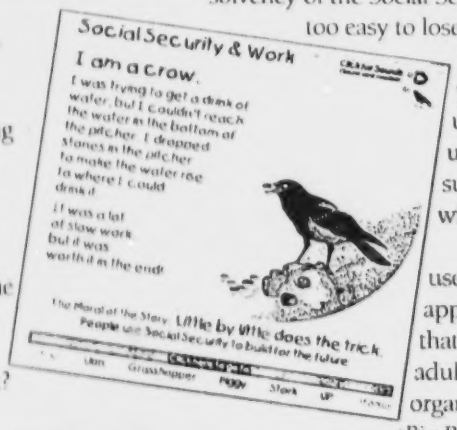
Teaching Kids About Social Security

By Matthew Kaplan,
Associate Professor, Intergenerational Programs and Aging
Department of Agricultural and Extension Education
Penn State University

A new feature on the Social Security Administration's web site may surprise some of you: it's designed specifically for children.

From a human development perspective, "Kids' Stuff" is brilliant. Friendly animals introduce basic Social Security concepts and share messages about the importance of saving and planning. By clicking on a turtle, young visitors learn how the slow and steady turtle beat the fast but overly-assured rabbit. The moral? "Slow but sure wins the race."


Social Security & Work
I am a crow.
I was trying to get a drink of water, but I couldn't reach the water in the bottom of the pitcher. I dropped stones in the pitcher to make the water rise to where I could drink it.
It was a lot of slow work, but it was worth it in the end!
The Moral of the Story: Little by little does the trick.
People use Social Security to build for the future.
Ant
Grasshopper
Pig
Stork
Up

A lion says: "When I used to chase the cows, I couldn't get them because they stuck together. I was able to get them, one by one, after they fought and separated." The concept? "United we stand, divided we fall."

A grasshopper may provide the most direct message about Social Security's importance: "When I saw an ant moving an ear of corn… I invited the ant to stop working so hard and relax with me. The ant said he had to keep working to store food for the winter. When winter came the ants shared the corn they had stored and I had no food, so I was very hungry." The moral here: We all need to prepare for the future.

To find out what a pig, stork and crow have to say about saving and planning, check out the Web site at http://www.ssa.gov/kids/kids.htm.

According to "Social Security eNews," the administration's online publication, learning about Social Security is "important to everyone — even grade-schoolers. They'll learn about the value of saving and planning for the future. Teaching these values to kids at an early age will help them to be prepared when the time comes."

Young people must realize that Social Security is more than a retirement or "old people's" program. In fact, 30 percent of the recipients aren't elderly, but people who receive support through Social Security's disability insurance and survivor's insurance programs.The Social Security system is built upon a social compact between generations. People, who are retiring now and about to draw benefits, made payments into the system that funded the previous generation's benefits. Similarly, for current workers to draw benefits when they retire, they must count on contributions made by future generations. Consider too that the older adult who receives benefits that keep pace with the increasing cost of living will be better able to provide financial and other types of support for younger family members, as well as others.

It's in everyone's best interest to support the long-term solvency of the Social Security system. Unfortunately, it's all too easy to lose sight of the interdependency between generations. Services for young people and older adults usually are housed in separate, unconnected agencies. They often are supported by agencies and advocates with opposing sets of agendas.

Generations United (GU) uses a different "intergenerational approach" when framing public policies that impact children, youth and older adults. Working with national organizations like National 4-H Council, Big Brothers/Big Sisters of America, National Council on the Aging and American Association of Homes and Services for the Aging, GU comes up with an "intergenerational public policy agenda" that simultaneously considers the needs of different age groups. GU has addressed such diverse challenges as: grandparents and other older relatives raising children in the National Family Caregiver Support Program (part of the recently reauthorized Older Americans Act); including intergenerational language in the Younger Americans Act ;and advocating for changes in senior housing programs to better accommodate the needs of grandparent-headed households.

When we bring "single-generation" focused groups together to promote a common agenda, we ensure that policies created to support the long-term welfare of any one group will build upon the common concerns of all.

Our desire to create a more civil society will be well-served by continuing to explore ways that the unique strengths of each generation can help meet each others' needs.

For information on the Penn State Intergenerational Program, contact Matthew Kaplan at 814-863-7871 or visit http://AgExtEd.cas.psu.edu/FCS/mk/menu.html.

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NEW RESOURCES

Generations In Touch: Linking the Old and Young in a Tokyo Neighborhood.

This book, by Leng Leng Thang, Assistant Professor of Japanese Studies and Assistant Director of the Centre for Advanced Studies at the National University of Singapore, describes how the cultural ideal of a large multigenerational household unites with the contemporary emphasis on positive personal encounters to provide a template for fostering reengagement among elders and positive attitudes toward aging among children. The book engages the question of whether intergenerational togetherness can be socially engineered in an institu-tional setting. Visit www.cornellpress.cornell.edu

Younger and Older: Younger People's Perceptions and Experiences of Older Colleagues, Managers and Subordinates in Sweden and the UK, by Ingrid Johansson. This book highlights the results of a comparative interview study which aimed to deepen and extend the understanding and knowledge of older people in working life as seen from the perspective of younger people in Sweden and the UK, while also enhancing the understanding of younger people in working life. To order, email Ingrid.Johansson@fatburen.org.

How to Survive Your Aging Parents . . . So You and They Can Enjoy Life: A Common-Sense Guide for Turning a Difficult Time in Both Your Lives Into a Loving Cooperative Relationship, a useful, easy to read, informative book on eldercare by Bernard Shulman M.D. and Raeann Berman. Available at your local bookstore.

The Wisdom to Choose: A Comprehensive Guide to Health and Independence for Elders, by Dixon Arnett and Wende Dawson Chan. This book guides seniors and those soon to become seniors, to a quality of life that is both rich and rewarding. Topics covered include lifestyles and healthy aging, as well as how to find and use social services proven to help seniors live as independently as they want as long as they can. Call 818-700-2522 or visit www.studio4productions.com

Allie Learns about Alzheimer's Disease, a new book from the Guidance Channel company that follows a family's decision about care when a young girl's much-loved grandmother is diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease. The book is the first in a series titled Special Family and Friends, which will tell informative stories that depict the interaction a between a child and adult with a specific medical condition. Call 800-99-YOUTH or visit www.jayjo.com

Monthly Column on Mentoring, The Guidance Channel Zine. In honor of National Mentoring Month in January, the Guidance Channel Zine launched a new monthly column sponsored by the National Mentoring Partnership. The column on the Guidance Channel website shares research, tips, and helpful information on the power of mentoring through an In Focus column on the Guidance Channel website at www.guidancechannel.com.

www.SilentFrog.com, an internet resource for older adults, or family members who are caring for seniors, to quickly find local people to provide assistance with odd jobs such as yard work, computer tutelage, errands, winter preparation etc. The service charges a nominal fee of $20 for a year of access. Visit www.silentfrog.com.

www.AtTheTable.org, an on-line clearinghouse of resources and information for youth voice and involvement. Hosted by the Innovation Center for Community and Youth Development as part of its At the Table initiative, the site gathers and shares information related to youth participation. Visit www.AtTheTable.org.

Intergenerational Communication, a special journal issue of the International Journal of Aging and Human Development, 39:1, with guest editor, Ellen Bouchard Ryan. This issue focuses on potential barriers and facilitators of successful intergenerational

encounters. Call Baywood Publishing Company, Inc. at 800-638-7819 or visit baywood.com.

AgeLine Database, a free information resource for all users of the AARP website, at www.aarp.org/ageline. AgeLine contains summaries of over 60,000 books, articles, and videos related to aging and older adults. It can be searched by keyword or phrase, title, author, journal name, date, or intended audience (researchers, policymakers, professionals, and general public). Visit www.aarp.org/ageline.

Parentmaking, a practical and comprehensive series of manuals and videos to help provide guidance to parents regarding child rearing and family growth. Call Banster Press at 650-369-8032.

National Resource Center for Youth Services Training Opportunities, Training opportunities regarding behavior crisis managements, managing aggressive behavior, residential child care work and more. For a schedule of training opportunities, call 800-274-2687 or email rbaker@ou.edu.

Child Welfare League of America's Online Bookstore and Gift Shop, an online resource that offers a wide selection of books, videos, curricula, and gift items. Visit www.cwla.org/pubs.

A Grandmother's Guide to Extended Babysitting: Practical Advice, Inspiration, and Space for Important Information. This guide helps grandparents with all of the information they need not just to survive, but excel at caring for their grandchildren. Call Capital Books at 703-661-1533.

Aging, Death and Dying Video Programs from Films for the Humanities and Sciences

In this acclaimed four part series, veteran PBS journalist Bill Moyers reports on the growing movement in America to improve care for people who are dying. Each program describes the intimate experiences of patients, families, and caregivers as they struggle to infuse life's ultimate rite of passage with compassion and comfort. Call 800-257-5126 or visit www.films.com.

Building on the Basics Crime Prevention Month Action Kit provides information on a variety of preventions measure such as helping to prevent crime against seniors. The month of February highlights Generations United. Visit www.ncpc.org.

Catalog for Parenting Books and Manuals from Morning Glory Press, a catalog for many useful teen-parenting books and manuals. Visit www.morningglorypress.com or call 888-327-4362.

Active Parenting Publishers, a 2002 resource catalog of books, videos and manuals on a variety of topics including grandparents raising children, loss and grief education, and teens and preteens. Call 800-825-0600 or visit www.activeparenting.com.

Free Spirit Catalog of Books for Kids and Parents, an annual catalog featuring books and resources for kids and parents on a variety of issues including divorce, teens, love relationships and sex. Visit www.freespirit.com or call toll free at 800-735-7323.

Healthy Ties: The Grandparent's and Other Realtive Caregiver's Guide to Health Insurance for Children.

This easy-to-read handbook provides information about Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) to grandparents and other relatives raising children. *Healthy Ties: Ensuring Health Coverage for Children Raised by Grandparents and Other Relatives* provides the results of a National Survey by the Children's Defense Fund of Medicaid and CHIP Enrollment in the States.

For more information call 202-628-8787 or visit www.childrensdefense.org

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Generations United Book Order Form

Title	Cost	Quantity	Total
Celebrate the Generations: Intergenerational Week Guidebook (NEW)	$10.00	_____	_____
Grandparents and other Relatives Raising Children: Background Papers from Generations United's Expert Symposium	$5.00	_____	_____
Strengthening the Social Compact: An Intergenerational Strategy	$5.00	_____	_____
The Retired and Senior Volunteer Program: A Catalyst for Intergenerational Partnerships (Sale!)	~~$10.00~~ $5.00	_____	_____
Grandparents and Other Relatives Raising Grandchildren: Grassroots Concerns and Solutions from Across the United States	$5.00	_____	_____
Young and Old Serving Together: Meeting Community Needs Through Intergenerational Partnerships	$18.00	_____	_____
Older Adults Caring for Children: Intergenerational Child Care	$15.00	_____	_____
Generations United Public Policy Agenda for the 107th Congress (FREE TO MEMBERS)	$5.00	_____	_____
Something to Remember Me By & Building Connections Between Young & Old: (Hardback)	$5.00	_____	_____
Building Connections Between Young and Old (A readers companion to *Something to Remember Me By.*)	$1.00	_____	_____
A Guide to the National Family Caregiver Support Program and Its Inclusion of Grandparents and Other Relatives Raising Children (NEW)	$7.00	_____	_____

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City of Norwalk
Community Programs Center of Long Island
Creative Grandparenting, Inc.
Crittenton Services For Children and Families
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Elders Share The Arts, Inc.
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Judy Goggin
Martha Graber
Roberta Greeson
W. Lee Hammond
Carolyn Hasley
Rose Heim
Shondel Herald
Austin Heyman
Carrie Ann Hill
Gay Hitchcock
Janet Hively
Gladys Hotchkiss
Wendy Hubenthal
Linda James
Teresa Jones
Matt Kaplan
Sean Kane
Dorothy Keenan
Linda Kenworthy
Susan Kitner
Frances Klempner
Michael Kohn
Sandy Kraemer
Judy Krenzel
Susan Landess
Laura Landry-Meyer
Elizabeth Larkin
Priscilla Laula
Abigail Lawrence
Karen Lilienkamp
Margaret Lueders
Connie Lykke
Pam Mammarella
Santa Mann
Loretta Marshall
Hank Mattimore
Clarita Mays
Robyn McBroom
Patricia McCann Vissepo
Regina McClurg
Meri McCormick
Lisa McCourt
Robert McCrumm
Jan McGilliard
Sandra McGuire
Jennifer McMahon
Nina Mervine
Dianne Moore
Gary Moore
Taffy Morgan
Tiffani Murray
Gail E. Neumann
Bernitha Neverson
Briget Nicholson
Julie Nielson
Kenneth Oliver
Lilian Oxtoby
Jennie Page
Charlotte Parot
Usha Paropkari
Sonia Perez
Jaia Peterson
John and Ruth Peterson
Sheryl Puracchio
Grace Puterman
Fred Ramstedt
Esther Ramsland Trask
Roselyn Rick
Gwendolyn Rhodes
Jeane Robertson
Vicki Rosebrook
Inez Russell
Maxine Russell
Dory Sabata
Francine Saczko
Velia Sanborn
Betti Sands
Lloyd Scher
Heidi Schoenemart
Karen Schrock
Cherie Schroeder
Patricia Scott
Sheila Sears
Kathy Seck
Gerald Sharrock
Susan Skinner
Becky Stamm
Janelle Steckley
Eileen Stephey

Sustaining:

Helen Block Fields
Donna Butts
Thayer.Caskey
J.G. Foster
Sheldon Goldberg
Marlene Goldman
Renee Kubesh
Bill Libro
Winifred McDuffie
Teresa Scannell
Francien Scholten
Kerry Stone
Holly Strand
John Sturrock
David Taylor
Robin Tillotson
Kim Tobiczyk
Catherine Tompkins
Mary Walsh
Chris Ward
Sherri Webb
Clarissa Wimmers
Esther Wright
Valerie Wright
Maria Young
Marla J. Yoho

New and Renewing Members

New Members:

Individual:

Winifred Dowling, TX
Stephen Gorham, DC
Michael F. & Mariel F. Gribben, MT
Kim Helfgott,VA
Ted John, WI
Pamela K. Maiura, OH
Brenda McCartney, OH
Maureen Stadland
Pat Ramey
Sandra Greiter

Sustaining:

Judith K. Leavitt, MS
Marla J. Yoho, MD

Organizations:

Casey Family Services
The Communication Project
The Illinois Dept. on Aging
Catholic Charities of Shiawassee & Genesee Co.
Messiah Housing Corporation

Renewing Members:

Organizations:

Holiday Park Senior Center
Joint Action in Community Service, Inc.

Individual:

Jane Sanderson, MI
Elizabeth S. Fox
Lillian Oxtoby
Jennie Page, MD
Margaret DubCA
Mary Jane Allen, MS
Gladys Hotchkiss, CA
Rose Heim, TX
Janice McGilliard, VA
Abigail Lawrence, MI
Linda Kenworthy, WI

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Calendar of Events

FEBRUARY 2002

20-21

Last Acts Conference. "End of life Care for the Next Generation." Tampa Florida. For information visit www.lastacts.org

24-27

The Fourteenth Annual America's At-Risk Youth National Forum, "From Cradle to Careers: Doing What Works to Prevent Dropouts." Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. For more information visit www.dropoutprevention.org Click on professional development.

27-March 2

The 2002 National Association of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies Symposium, "Shaping the Future." Washington, DC. For more information go to www.naccrra.org

28- March 3

28th Annual Meeting and Education Leadership Conference of the Association for Gerontology in Higher Education, "Teaching and Learning about Aging Through Interdisciplinary, Intergenerational, and International Programs," Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. For more information call 202-289-9806 or visit www.aghe.org.

MARCH

6-8

CWLA's National Conference, Children 2002: Making Children a National Priority, Marriott Wardman Park, Washington, DC. For more information call 617-769-4003.

7-9

14th Annual Conference of the National School Age Care Alliance, Memphis Tennessee. For more information call 617-298-5012 or visit www.nsaca.org.

7-10

National Child Care Association Annual Conference, San Antonio, Texas. For more information visit www.nccanet.org

Older American's Month - May 2002 America: A Community for All Ages

Assistant Secretary for Aging, Josefina Carbonell recently announced the theme of Older American's Month for May 2002, America: A Community for All Ages. Secretary Carbonell stated, "This theme was selected in recognition of the national community in which we live, and in tribute to the American family which is the strength of our nation." This year's theme has a strong intergenerational focus both on promoting intergenerational programs and supporting intergenerational family caregiving. Visit AOA's website at http://www.aoa.gov/may2002/theme.html for the full text of the Secretary's statement and more information on Older American's Month.

Maryland Intergenerational Coalition to Hold Annual Conference

The Maryland Intergeneration Coalition will be hosting its annual conference on Tuesday, April 23 at Sheppard Pratt Conference Center in Towson (Baltimore County) on "Linking the Generations to Strengthen the Communities. Marc Freedman, President of Civic Ventures, author of "Prime Time" and member of the Board of Generations United has been invited to give the keynote address. Several Maryland-based intergenerational programs will be presented. For further information please call the Ready at Five Office at 410 727-6290 or email AssocServ@aol.com

17-23

National Inhalants & Poisons Awareness Week. For information on how to order an inhalants and poisons awareness week local coordinator's kit call 800-269-4237 or email nipc@io.com.

22-23

The National Hispanic Council on Aging 8th Biennial Conference, "Luminarias: Paths to Well-being," San Diego, CA 92108. For more information visit www.nhcoa.org.

APRIL

2-4

First International Consortium for Intergenerational Programmes International Conference, "Connecting Generations: A Global Perspective." Keele University, United Kingdom. For more information email generations@bif.org.uk.

4-7

Second Joint Conference of The National Council of the Aging and the American Society on Aging, "Crossing the Great Divide: A Call for Compassion & Creativity," Denver, Colorado For more information call 800-537-9728 or visit www.asaging.org.

15-16

The 2002 public policy conference of the Alliance for Children and Families, "Children and Families at a Time of National Challenge" Bethesda, Maryland. For more information, contact the (202) 223-3447 or policy@alliance1.org.

23

Maryland Intergenerational Coalition Annual conference, "Linking the Generations to Strengthen the Communities," Towson, Maryland. For more information call 410-727-6290.

MAY

Older American's Month, "America: A Community for All Ages" For more information visit www.aoa.gov/may2002/theme.html

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Calendar of Events

1-4
National Association of Child Care Professionals, St. Louis, Missouri. For more information visit www.naccp.org

19-25
Intergenerational Week, For more information visit www.gu.org

JUNE
Summer Series on Aging: West Coast Conference in San Francisco. Over forty half-day and full day workshops are held at each location on topics ranging from aging in place, dementia care and family caregiving to mental health, spirituality and management issues. For more information visit www.asaging.org/nlc/online.html

9-12
National Conference on Community Volunteering and National Service. Salt Lake City, Utah. For more information visit www.pointsoflight.org

15
Join Hands Day, a national day of service to bring youth and adults together in service to their communities. Sponsored by the America Fraternal Benefits Societies in partnership with the Points of Light Foundation and Volunteer Center National Network. For more information visit www.joinhandsday.org

19-21
Generations Together 10th International Intergenerational Training Institute, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. For more information visit http://www.gt.pitt.edu/

JULY
Summer Series on Aging: East Coast Conference in Philadelphia. Over forty half-day and full day workshops are held at each location on topics ranging from aging in place, dementia care and family caregiving to mental health, spirituality and management issues. For more information visit www.asaging.org/nlc/online.html

7-10
The 14th International Congress on Child Abuse and Neglect, "Charting our progress toward protection of children worldwide," presented by the International Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect and the Kempe Children's Foundation, Denver, Colorado. For more information visit www.kempecenter.org.

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Florence Mitchell
Office Assistant

Jaia Peterson
Public Policy Coordinator
Newsletter Editor

Donna Rawls
KinNET Coordinator

Eboni Speight
Office/Grants Manager

Sheri Steinig
Program Director

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On the Road with Generations United

GU continues to promote the intergenerational message through presentations, workshops and speeches throughout the country. Information about upcoming events is listed below.

February 28- March 3
The 28th Annual Meeting and Educational Leadership Conference of The Association for Gerontology in Higher Education, Pittsburgh, PA, "Shared Sites, Shared Resources: New Intergenerational Program Innovations and Public Policy Initiatives," Sheri Steinig, Jaia Peterson

March 7-9
National School-Age Care Alliance Conference, Memphis, TN, "Intergenerational Innovations in After-school Programs and Public Policies," Sheri Steinig, Jaia Peterson

11-15
7th National Child Welfare Conference, sponsored by The Children's Bureau, Administration for Children and Families, Washington, DC. Donna Rawls

April
2-4
First International Consortium for Intergenerational Programmes International Conference. Keele University, United Kingdom. "Intergenerational Shared Sites and Services for Children, Youth and Families." Jaia Peterson, Sheri Steinig

4-7
Second Joint Conference of The National Council on the Aging and the American Society on Aging, Denver, Colorado, "National Collaborative Efforts to Support Grandparents and Other Relatives Raising Children," Maggie Troope Biscarr, Donna Rawls, and Marcia Nunnally, grandparent caregiver

"Shared Sites, Shared Resources: New Intergenerational Program Innovations and Public Policy Initiatives, Sheri Steinig, Jaia Peterson

"Intergenerational Public Policy: Strategy for All Ages," Jaia Peterson with Bob Blancato and Maggie Troope Biscarr

12
New Jersey Intergenerational Conference, Keynote Address, Donna Butts

July 13-17
N4A's 27th Annual Conference, "Fiesta of Aging in the Alamo City", San Antonio, Texas, Donna Butts, Maggie Troope Biscarr

If you would like to schedule someone from Generations United to address your conference or event, call 202-638-1263 or email gu@gu.org.

INTERGENERATIONAL PROGRAMMES AND POLICIES

continued from page 15

development be positive sustainable, achievable and relevant."

Dr. Molina closed with examples of several successful intergenerational programs in Latin America. She described the Grandparents for Health program in Guatemala that recruited and trained 300 older persons to become volunteer community health promoters during the Measles Vaccination Campaign. With the help of these volunteers, a record number of children were vaccinated in the streets of the capital city where they focused their efforts. Dr. Molina reported on the success of the Grandparents by Choice program which trains older volunteers who commit for life to visit an "adopted grandchild" once a week at a group home, in person or by phone and to participate in support groups for grandparents once a month. The seven-year-old program has had a near 100% retention rate, with exception only of those who became ill or died.

Over 200 people attended this session, which was moderated by Robert Goodwin, President & CEO of the Points of Light Foundation and the National Network of Volunteer Centers.

For more information on the work of Kees Penninx, Alan Hatton-Yeo, or Dr. Helia Molina, contact Generations United at 202-638-1263 or email gu@gu.org.

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We are saddened to announce our former office manager, Grace Udoh, passed away in January. Grace was committed to GU and had a warm spirit. She will be missed.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE *continued from page 24*

program applicable to those children in state custody only. The State also changed the subsidy amounts and eligibility requirements. Now, the household must be at 200 percent of the federal poverty guidelines and the maximum subsidy payment is 75 percent of the foster care rate. For further information, please contact Gayle Zielonka at the Missouri Department of Social Services, Division of Family Services, Children's Services at (573) 751-9488.

NEW YORK

This session, the New York legislature passed their Families in Transition Act of 2000, which changes New York's standby guardianship statute to include legal custodians and "primary caregivers" of minors as individuals who can name a future guardian for the minors. "Primary caretakers" must show that the actual parent, guardian, or legal custodian of a minor cannot be located with "due diligence".

Previous to this legislative change, only parents or guardians could petition for the appointment of a "standby guardian" for a minor. Now, parents, guardians, legal custodians and "primary caregivers" of minors, who have a progressively chronic or irreversibly fatal illness, can petition for the appointment of a standby guardian or can name a standby guardian in a one-page writing similar to a will. The standby guardian acts upon the incapacity or death of the parent, guardian, legal custodian or "primary caregiver." The law was designed to assist "families and children living with HIVAIDS...". However, it is not limited to illnesses caused by HIV/AIDS.

The law safeguards children by mandating that the nominated standby guardian petition for permanent appointment within sixty days of the event that activates the guardianship. A judge must then approve the nomination and find that the permanent appointment of the standby is in the child's best interest. If the standby guardian does not petition for permanent appointment, the temporary power to act as a guardian ceases. For further information about this law, please contact Gerard Wallace, Director of the Grandparent Caregiver Law Center at the Brookdale Center

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

BECOME A GENERATIONS UNITED MEMBER TODAY

Generations United is the only national membership organization focused solely on promoting intergenerational policies, strategies and programs. Members support the work of GU and can provide direct input into GU's priorities.

Membership benefits include:

- *annual subscription to Together, GU's quarterly newsletter*
- *conference and educational event discounts*
- *public policy alerts and briefings*
- *access to our national program profile database*
- *linkage to GU's web page*
- *discounts on GU publications*
- *and much more!*

Join Generations United today to support and strengthen the intergenerational movement nationally and in Washington, DC. If you have any questions, please contact us at 202/638-1263.

Membership Application:

Name: _____

Title: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Fax: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Dues are paid on a yearly basis:

❑ Individual membership-$50
❑ Individual sustaining-$100*
❑ Student or Retiree membership-$25
❑ Organization membership-Based on a sliding scale. Contact GU directly for more information before sending in form.

** Contributions above the basic membership fee support the work of Generations United and are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.*

Please make check payable to Generations United and return to: Generations United 122 C Street, N.W., Suite 820, Washington, DC 20001-2109

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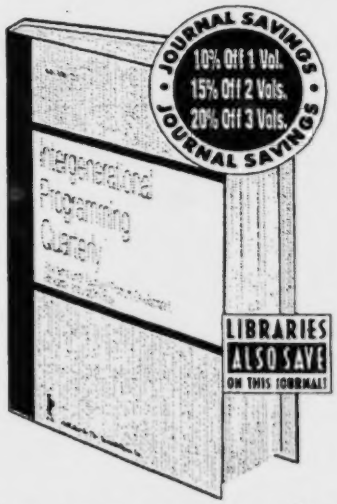
NEWS FROM THE STATES, *continued from page 23*

attending the Holloman Air Force Base New Mexico School-Age Program have adopted grandparents that are fulltime residents of the Aristocrat Assisted Living Center in Alamogordo, New Mexico. Through this program children bring joy and sunshine to the lives of those living at the Assisted Living Center. Also, our children are gaining a new dimension of understanding. They are able to experience and understand the need for a place that helps our elder generation with added support for their lifestyle and independence.

We try to emphasize to the children that we can learn from people of all generations and what better source to start with than the wisdom of America's elderly. Through our program we believe the "grandparent" participants are able to remember and relate some of their past experiences and history to the children. The children are not the only ones to learn new and exciting things! Stories and tales heard from the children mesmerize the grandparents. Our grandparents' faces light up with every visit whether we come with child-created gifts, put on a short play, or provide some type of entertainment. During the holidays the children made special gifts to give their adopted grandparents. The children worked hard on the gifts and it was evident through the smiles and praise from the grandparents to the beaming pride of the children that both generations were enriched by the moment.

Through the Adopt-a-Grandparent Program, children at Holloman Air Force Base Youth and Teen Center have the opportunity to experience multi-generational interaction. It is hard to tell who is benefiting more, the grandparents or the children who have adopted them. We remain committed to ensuring continued enrichment of the lives of children and our elder generation with our Adopt-a-Grandparent Program.

For more information contact Julie Holland or Brad George at 505-572-3698 or Bradley.george@holloman.af.mil



Intergenerational Program Quarterly

an international journal of practice, research, and policy

Stay abreast of new practice methods, research and public policy initiatives with the only journal focused exclusively on intergenerational issues. The charter issue of Intergenerational Program Quarterly will appear in Winter 2003. For more information about subscriptions or submitting an article, call 412-648-7155 or visit ipqjournal.ucsur.pitt.edu

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SEPTEMBER 11, *continued from page 21*

immunizations for children to volunteers who work in the local police department to log evidence and track warrants. New funding will help bring additional volunteers and services that will help with homeland security.

CONCLUSION

The existing intergenerational models and new innovative approaches provide a unique opportunity to support children, youth, and older adults in the wake of September 11th. In addition to the programs discussed, there are numerous intergenerational service-learning opportunities to be explored where young and old together can learn about issues and then take positive action. The intergenerational response to the tragic events of September 11th provides a new and different opportunity for intergenerational initiatives, older adult engagement, and community service that could be sustained for long-term positive outcomes for schools and communities.

This article presents some of the possible roles intergenerational approaches can play in the aftermath of September 11th. If you have other ideas you would like to share or would like more information on any of the programs featured here, please contact Generations United at 202/638-1263 or gu@gu.org.

We at Generations United are saddened by the recent loss of Marge Lueders, GU member and Together editorial board member, who passed away in January. Marge was a passionate supporter of intergerational approaches and will be greatly missed

IN THE SPOTLIGHT,

continued from page 4

Community Outreach program. Residents, volunteers and staff make stuffed teddy bears for the sheriff's office to distribute to children in times of crisis such as at accidents, crime scenes and domestic violence incidents. Officers carry the bears in their squad cars and give them to children in need. Often the bears can help keep children calm and reduce their anxiety until a guardian arrives.

Last year the program brought elderly residents from Woldenberg village retirement community and young people from the Jewish Federations' Young Adult Division Social Action committee together to brighten the lives of children serviced by the House of Ruth, a temporary shelter for families seeking refuge from domestic violence. Together young and old made over 200 teddy bears that were donated to children at the House of Ruth.

While they partook of a delicious spread of bagels, pastries and fruit – much of it donated by area supermarkets – the volunteers of all ages make teddy bears from scratch. Some older and younger volunteers cut out the fabric while others stitched the bears. Children and older adults armed themselves with markers, stickers and glitter and were assigned to the bear-decorating cadre. Babysitting was available free of charge.

Combining both organizations allowed participants not only to give something back to the New Orleans community through the House of Ruth, but provided the perfect opportunity for the younger members of the community to interact with the older generations. The Woldenberg residents who made the bears say they benefit as well by knowing that they are helping children in their community.

For more information contact Helen Shelly or Ann Marie Pierce at 504-367-5640.

For more information about the American Association of Homes and Services for the Aging, call 202-783-2242 or visit www.aahsa.org.

May 19-25,2002
Plan Now to Celebrate
INTERGENERATIONAL WEEK
For more information visit
www.gu.org

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Intergenerational Pins for Sale

Among the popular aspects of GU's International Conference was an intergenerational pin designed by Oscar's Originals of New Orleans. These colorful handcrafted pins are each unique and now available for purchase from Generations United at $6 a piece. To order please contact GU at 202-638-1263 or email gu@gu.org.

Mini-Grants Available!

Generations United is distributing mini-grants for community projects and events that promote the Academy Award nominated documentary, Legacy and the new PBS series American Family. Grants will be awarded up to $500 dollars. Visit the GU website at www.gu.org for copies of the application forms.

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Together

THE GENERATIONS UNITED NEWSLETTER *Spring 2002 • Volume 7 • Number 2*

A NATURAL APPROACH:

INTERGENERATIONAL SHARED SITES AND SHARED RESOURCES

By Sheri Steinig
Program Director

Years ago, American society looked very different. Previously, extended families lived together or in close proximity. Tightly knit communities shared the responsibility of raising children and looking out for their oldest residents. Older citizens were viewed as the "carriers of culture" and were looked up to as role models. Many factors, including increased mobility, divorce, workplace demands, and fear of violence, have led to the separation of age groups that would traditionally benefit the most from intergenerational interaction.

Today, we live in an age-segregated society. Older adults live in senior-only housing and communities, spend days in senior centers, adult-only day programs, nursing homes, and long-term care facilities. Children and youth are relegated to child-only child care centers, schools, and before- and after-school programs. There are very few natural opportunities left for the generations to interact. As a result, many young people and older adults do not have relationships with each other and are disconnected from their communities.

Foster Grandparent and child at HeadStart of Rockland, INC., Nyack, New York. Photograph by Lilith Pabon.

For the past decade, older Americans, families, youth, and children have all struggled with the severe cutbacks in essential health and social programs. The myths and stereotypes that result from separating the generations in combination with shrinking resources can foster tension between the generations. But the benefits are far greater when children and older adults work together. Children can relieve isolation, loneliness, and boredom of institutionalized older adults. Older adults can be positive role models for children and youth. They can provide support for children of single parents, assist latch-key kids, and share cultural heritage, and family traditions.

INTERGENERATIONAL SHARED SITES & SHARED RESOURCES

Intergenerational shared sites and/or shared resource programs are breaking down the artificially created walls of age segregation. These programs, also referred to as co-located facilities, are building new environments where children, youth, and older adults share space, interact, and learn and grow together. They are creating spaces, where organizations serving children and serving older adults are working together to enhance services and expand resources. These cutting-edge programs are sprouting up in communities all across the country in urban, suburban, and rural settings. Many of these programs are models in

continued on page 23

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From the Executive Director: Donna Butts

Checking into a Denver hotel a few years ago, I discovered that I was sharing a floor with a high school soccer team. Needing my sleep to be sure I was in good shape for the keynote address I was to deliver the next morning, I thought about asking to be moved to a quieter floor. Then I stopped in my tracks and started laughing at myself. How could I move? The talk I was scheduled to give was to the Colorado Intergenerational Network conference and one of my points was how we need to promote shared sites and stop segregating the generations.

It was a great evening. The young athletes quieted down at a reasonable hour and I learned some new stretches they were practicing in the hallway.

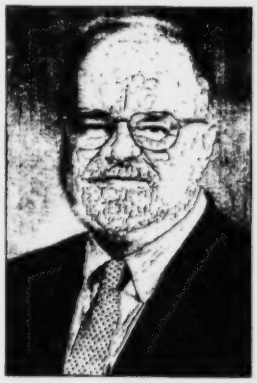
Some times we are too quick to jump to conclusions.

This issue of *Together* focuses on Shared Sites and resources. Since we first launched our Project SHARE (Sharing Helps All Resources Expand) with the generous support of the Helen Andrus Benedict Foundation, we've made good progress. In addition to the national expert symposium we held last year, we have identified numerous "shared" programs and facilities both across the U.S. and abroad.

Earlier this spring Nan Maitland, the founder of Homeshare International, invited me to stay with her on my way through London. She told me about this unique program that actually operates in several countries including Spain where it is quite successful. The concept is to help older people stay in their own homes, maintaining their independence and assets, while providing housing for a younger generation. In Spain, university students are the most common participants. Homeshare operates on a barter principle. The sharer may do light housework or shopping or other chores. In Nan's case her home sharer maintains the organization's web site in exchange for living in Nan's home.

We're just beginning to learn about the multitude of models and opportunities "sharing" offers. What we know for certain, though, is we all stand to gain from the richness of mixing the generations...even in hotels.

From the Chair: John Rother



Recently Generations United released our first annual report summarizing the work of our organization from our incorporation in 1997 through 2000. I am proud of how GU is growing and taking our work to the next step in intergenerational public policy and programs.

As a younger organization, much of GU's major public policy work involved pulling together coalitions to help shape or insert language into existing legislation. GU's work has grown in recent years beyond its initial advocacy efforts to leading the way for the recent introduction of the LEGACY bill by Representatives Michael Capuano (D-MA) and Connie Morella (R-MD), a bill for which GU did the foundational research and drafted the language. This proposed legislation will help provide affordable housing to grandparents and other relatives raising children.

From GU's beginning we have collected information about intergenerational program models across the country. We are pleased that this information will soon be available through an online database, making it even more accessible to our members and others in the field interested in starting or supporting intergenerational programs.

GU has been a resource providing training and technical assistance around issues affecting grandparents raising children since the beginning of our grandparents work in the early 1990's. However, with the development of GU's new National Center on Grandparents and Other Relatives Raising Children, GU is broadening the pool of experts on these important issues. GU is developing a cadre of trained professionals, who will be available to address social service organizations, advocacy organizations, local groups, and others seeking to increase their knowledge about grandparents and other relatives raising children.

As GU's work continues to expand, so does our diverse group of board members. We are pleased to announce that Charles Gould, president and CEO of Volunteers of America will be joining our board. Chuck brings years of executive leadership, which will greatly benefit GU. We look forward to working with Chuck as he brings a fresh perspective to our active board.

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Grandma's House at Westminster Care of Orlando: A Place for Intergenerational Healing

Imagine a place where medically fragile children and older adults live and heal together. A warm, nurturing environment full of love and trust, where young and old have opportunities to learn new things and teach what's familiar. That's Grandma's House at Westminster Care of Orlando in Orlando, Florida.

Located on the campus of Westminster Care of Orlando, a skilled nursing community south of Downtown Orlando, Grandma's House developed from the real need in Central Florida for pediatric long-term care. Westminster Community Care Services, the parent organization, took the idea one step further and introduced older adults into the mix to create a one-of-a-kind intergenerational long-term care program.

While staff members provide the medical care and therapy services for the kids, volunteer "grandmas and grandpas" live in the same wing or "neighborhood," with the children. They encourage, assist and mentor the kids as they heal physically. The adults function as supportive friends, whose presence uplifts the children to grow, learn and heal. The adults benefit from the interaction and sense of purpose they get from helping.

Intergenerational programs offer an opportunity for personal connections and help reduce loneliness, depression and boredom — symptoms often associated with nursing home living.

When pediatricians and community leaders visit Grandma's House the most common response to this unique concept is, "It sounds so logical to put children and older adults together. Why hasn't anyone done it sooner?"

Residents agree. Annie Parris, a resident Grandma, recently said, "Because of Grandma's House, just maybe my best days are ahead of me."

For more information on Grandma's House contact the Westminster Retirements Communities Foundation at 407-839-5050 or visit www.WestminsterRetirement.com

Theme for this Issue
Intergenerational Shared Sites

Generations United *Together*
Together celebrates the richness of generations by providing useful information about intergenerational programs and policies through articles that address the mutual well-being of children, youth, adults, and older adults.

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Generations United members represent many viewpoints. Inclusion of articles, research, conferences, or resources does not imply GU's endorsement. We encourage our members to submit articles, artwork, photographs, and information on upcoming events, recent publications, or honors. All materials are considered carefully for publication.

Together is published quarterly for members of Generations United.

Please submit e-mail to jpeterson@gu.org or a disc compatible with Microsoft Word to Editor, Generations United, 122 C Street, N.W., Suite 820, Washington, DC 20001 or call 202/638-1263.

Jana Peterson, Editor
Marcia DeLong, Design & Layout, DeLong Litho

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Generations United Program Update

By Sheri Steinig
Program Director

Project SPARC

Generations United's Project SPARC (Seniors: Powerful & Active Resources in Communities) promotes senior service and older adults as assets in their communities. As part of this initiative GU will share in *Together* facts about older adult volunteerism, tips for engaging older adults in service, and stories of success. The third installment features some tips on recruiting youth volunteers for intergenerational community service programs.

Youth Recruitment School-Based

- *Classrooms all across America, from kindergarten through university level, are integrating service-learning into their curricula. Many school districts now have community service as a requirement for graduation. The combination of students and older adults as intergenerational community service teams can further enhance the service-learning experience. Recruit through classrooms where service-learning is practiced. Administrators, faculty, and coordinators will likely view your program as an asset and unique opportunity for their students to fulfill service requirements.*
- *Ask teachers or counselors to recommend or nominate student participants, address assemblies or make classroom presentations to appeal directly to students, or arrange for an entire classroom to participate.*
- *Solicit input from teachers and service-learning coordinators to prepare student-appropriate promotional materials. Include photo images and testimonials from peers in the marketing plan.*

Youth Recruitment Community-Based

- *Become familiar with "youth congregation points" in your community and display colorful, exciting flyers or posters to attract interest. Be sure to talk with the people you see. Word of mouth is an effective way to recruit youth volunteers.*
- *Not all young people are engaged through school. Look for alternative gathering places such as malls, sporting events, concerts, and restaurants. Many communities offer alternative youth services.*
- *Talk with your partners from the youth, education, disability, service, and community-based organizations (such as Boys and Girls Clubs, Camp Fire USA, 4-H, YMCA, YWCA, community centers, Youth Volunteer Corps, local rehabilitation centers, and the Salvation Army). Ask for recommendations and enlist their assistance.*
- *Partner with social workers, case workers, juvenile parole officers, and other professionals who have access to youth to help identify and locate young participants.*
- *If your community is home to an AmeriCorps project, arrange a meeting with the director or coordinator to discuss mutual agendas. AmeriCorps participants serve with local organizations for one-year working to address the education, public safety, environmental, and other human service needs of the community.*
- *Identify and target young people from diverse backgrounds. For example, you can reach out to young people with disabilities through Special Education offices in your school system, through the local ARC, or through organizations like United Cerebral Palsy.*

University and College Campus Recruitment

- *Match students' interests with available opportunities.*
- *Attract students creatively by making bright, colorful brochures, posting flyers in frequently visited locations, and keeping a website with up-to-date information and service opportunities.*
- *Contact professors to make presentations about volunteering.*
- *Use the campus and community media to promote volunteer opportunities.*
- *Host volunteer fairs to educate students about community service.*
- *Throughout the entire recruiting process, remain enthusiastic, assertive, and creative.*
- *Contact service clubs such as Campus Compact, COOL, Circle K, and Alpha Phi Omega.*

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Do you work with an intergenerational shared site program? Does your program serve children, youth, and older adults in the same building or campus?
If the answer is YES, then we are looking for you.
GU is compiling profiles on model intergenerational shared site programs. Please contact Sheri Steinig at 202-638-1263 for more information.

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Building Bridges

By Leah Stein
Activites Director, Kinneret

Kinneret Apartments, the Hebrew Day School and Patricia R. Selznick Middle School have joined together for an innovative intergenerational program. Intergenerational Mondays is a two-part program, allowing the seniors to interact with students of various ages, and giving many children the opportunity to enjoy the Kinneret residents.

Every Monday, 5 residents from Kinneret join the 7th graders for an hour of fun and education. The goal of Intergenerational Mondays is encourage interaction and communication between generations. This goal is achieved through learning about each other, and understanding similarities and differences within and between age groups. The program began with seniors interviewing the students, in an attempt to gain knowledge about the students, their interests and their lives.

The majority of the program focuses on life histories of the seniors. The students are divided into groups and each week learn more about their Kinneret friends through answers to a set of questions, which slowly probe information about every decade. The students started out by asking about the senior and their family, and progressed into childhood memories, elementary school, high school and relationships. The time passes quickly for everyone involved as the seniors and students, talk, laugh and smile together.

Daniel Feinberg, Greeley Dawson, Baris Gershman, and Lindsay Hansen (Left-Right) laugh as they listen to Murray Davis answer one of their questions. The interviews are allowing the seniors and the children to learn about the past, present and future.

Kinneret Resident, Lily Sherman and 1st grade student Dana Kruger talk about themselves and their days before reading a book together.

Not only are the students learning about the senior's lives, but the seniors have a special opportunities to share memories they have held dear to their hearts over the years. Sarah Rose Sexter, a Kinneret resident explains, "I am participating because I really like connecting with our future. It's fun and it's inspirational. I am getting from it a lot of joy. It keeps me alive, connecting to others." Once the interviews are over, the students will create a final project to present at both the Hebrew Day School as well as Kinneret. Dr. Zena Sulkes, Head of School is working with the students on their projects. Randye Falk, Selznick Middle School Principal commented, "This is just one of a series of enrichment opportunities for our students."

The second component of the program involves the first graders at the Hebrew Day School. Each Monday afternoon, children and Kinneret residents can be seen sitting in small chairs outside of classes, completely enthralled in books. The children have the chance to show off their reading skills, while getting needed assistance with difficult words, while the seniors have the unique opportunity to tutor and be read to, something people of all ages enjoy. Through the interactions and the reading, a connection is being formed between the children and the seniors.

For more information on this program contact Leah Stein at 407-425-4537 or email activdir@bellsouth.net

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International Intergenerational Advocates Unite in the U.K.

By Paul Arfin
Director, The Community Program Center of Long Island

In early April, my wife and I journeyed to England and eventually to Stoke-on-Trent, two hours north of London in beautiful English countryside. I was invited to be a presenter at the first international conference on intergenerational programming. We joined together with 100 representatives of organizations and governments from 22 nations located on six continents.

The sponsor, the International Consortium of Intergenerational Programmes (ICIP), was recently incorporated in the Netherlands and has a Board of Directors of fifteen persons from around the world. According to its Bylaws no more than two people can represent any one country. Attendees represented a "who's who" of the programmatic and research leaders in our growing field.

The conference intended to bring together professionals from across the globe to share their experiences, to learn from one another, and to debate the future development of intergenerational work. By all accounts, the conference accomplished its goals. It was also a social success as evidenced by the number of people who found their way every chance they could to imbibe and eat at "The Sneyd Arms," a delightful pub where locals drink and sing together.

I was impressed by the caliber of the participants and their ability to transcend cultural and political barriers during the general discussions, business meeting, and workshops. There was common ground in our intergenerational work that served as the glue that bound us. There was basic agreement on a definition of "intergenerational programming" and a real sense that we share a set of common beliefs that respect the needs of both younger and older. There was a great deal of concern about negative stereotyping of the generations and the importance of counteracting them. Elections were held to ICIP's Board of Directors. Representing the United States are Donna Butts of Generations United and Amy Goyer of AARP. The Board will meet annually and work in between meetings by email.

With regard to intergenerational research, it was generally agreed that more is needed and that the work that's been done isn't well disseminated. Workshops included such topics as research and evaluation, community development strategies, cultural perspectives, grandparenting, child care/adult care co-located programs, arts programs and service learning programs.

I was particularly impressed by the community development work being done around the world both in developed and developing nations that brings together young and older into

Members of the ICIP Management Committee representing the Netherlands, U.S., Israel, India, U.K., Germay, Spain, and Singapore.

Conference participants engage in discussion after session on Intergenerational Strategies for Sustaining Community Development in Developing Countries.

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Intergenerational Degree Available Online

By **Hollie M. Haley**
Intergenerational Intern Coordinator,
The Marilyn & Gordon Macklin Institute for intergenerational Studies, University of Findley

Interested in the Graduate Program but can't travel to Findlay, Ohio to participate? No problem! In fall of 2002, the Graduate Program for Intergenerational Studies Degree will be available online and through alternative distance learning.

Recognizing the need for a new discipline that further addresses intergenerational care and programming issues, the Marilyn and Gordon Macklin Institute for Intergenerational Studies at The University of Findlay developed The Master of Arts in Liberal Studies/Intergenerational Studies Degree Program with the help of their second FIPSE (Funds for Improving Postsecondary Education) grant from the United States Department of Education. The Masters Program began in January of 2001 and was built on the success of the Intergenerational Associate Program that addresses the momentum of the expanding intergenerational field, and the growing demand for services that spans across the age spectrum. The program allows students to gain a Masters Degree or a Graduate Level Intergenerational Certificate while completing required experiential hours, practicum experiences, and/or internships. The Macklin Institute has identified intergenerational experiential sites, and professionals in the intergenerational field to mentor the graduate students as they complete the Intergenerational Strand of classes.

The program allows students to gain a Masters Degree or a Graduate Level Intergenerational Certificate while completing required experiential hours, practicum experiences, and/or internships.

The Intergenerational Graduate Program offers three strand options: Lifelong Learning, Professional, and the Certificate.

Strand 1 - *The Lifelong Learning Strand* combines the Master of Arts in Liberal Studies interdisciplinary core requirements with five new and innovative electives. This strand was created to meet the needs of individuals who may be retired and/or out of school for several years and wish to learn about the intergenerational field, lifespan human development, and natural health and healing.

Strand 2 - *The Professional Strand* combines the Master of Arts in Liberal Studies interdisciplinary core requirements with five electives of theoretical course work and experiential opportunities in which students examine intergenerational program models, and develop practical skills. In this strand each student is involved in a mentoring relationship with a national or international intergenerational professional recommended by The Macklin Institute.

Strand 3 - *The Certificate Strand* is earned through successful completion of five specifically required courses of theoretical course work and experiential opportunities similar to those in the Professional Strand. Students in this strand are also involved in a mentoring relationship with a national or international intergenerational professional recommended by The Macklin Institute. A culminating practicum project is required in the final class. The Certificate Strand was developed for those individuals who do not wish to complete the entire Master Degree Program.

The Master of Arts in Liberal Studies/Intergenerational Program prepares individuals for careers in post-secondary instruction, direct-service, intergenerational administration, research and evaluation, consultation, political advocacy, and leadership roles within the emerging intergenerational field.

For more information contact the Marilyn and Gordon Macklin Institute for Intergenerational Studies at The University of Findlay at 419-434-6990, or email haley@mail.findlay.edu for more information.

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Engaging Our Nations Seniors, Protecting Children's Environmental Health

by Ted Coopwood
Coordinator of Youth and Intergenerational Programs
Environmental Protection Agency

Children are one of our most vital resources. Sadly, many of the nation's children are sick due to a variety of illnesses that are related to environmental conditions. Many of these illnesses could be prevented through educational efforts. The growing resource of older adults can play a unique role in efforts to promote environmental health in our communities.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is working with Generations United to support intergenerational efforts that promote children's environmental health. Intergenerational programs would engage seniors to learn, teach, and institute measures that will enable youth to protect themselves, their families, and their community against health risks caused by environmental exposures.

EPA has worked to improve our understanding of how children are adversely impacted by environmental conditions, compared to adults. Children are at greater risk to environmental threats because their bodies are still developing and, therefore, their internal organs, neurological and digestive systems and immune systems are more susceptible to environmental threats. Children eat more food, drink more fluids and breathe more air in proportion to their body weight than adults. In addition, children behave differently than adults: they crawl on the ground and on floors; put their hands and other objects in their mouths; and play outside which makes them more susceptible to ingesting environmental threats.

The growing resource of older adults can play a unique role in efforts to promote environmental health in our communities.

There are several environmental health risks that impact children in the United States:

- *Almost a million children are exposed to lead, primarily from exposure to lead-based paint or dust in their homes. Lead, even at low levels, causes neurological damage, learning difficulties, behavioral disorders, and lower IQ scores.*
- *Low-income and minority children are much more likely to be exposed to lead hazards and are disproportionately impacted by asthma.*
- *Over the past 15 years, asthma in children under 5 years of age has increased 160%*
- *Asthma is the leading cause of school absenteeism, accounting for 10 million missed schooled days per year.*
- *Children can be exposed to pesticides in their diets and drinking water, or through activities at home, play and school. Exposure to pesticides may lead to adverse effects such as cancer, neurological and lung damage and reproductive dysfunction.*
- *Over exposure to the sun contributes to skin cancer, cataracts, and immune system suppression. Children are of great concern since on average 80% of a person's lifetime sun exposure occurs before the age of 18.*
- *Exposure to waterborne contaminants can occur when eating contaminated fish, drinking contaminated water, or swimming in contaminated water bodies.*

In 1999, EPA's Office of Children's Health Protection developed a strategy to engage national youth-based organizations in children's environmental health protection. They believed that by giving national youth organizations the tools to educate their youth about environmental health and how it relates to their own health and the environment, they would help promote the importance of environmental health protection and lay the groundwork for the next generation of environmental health advocates. Through this effort, more than 15 million youth have been given the opportunity to learn about environmental health and what they can do to protect themselves. Just as we have engaged millions of youth in protecting our nation's children, we can mobilize our vast resource of older adults, parents and grandparents to do the same.

By incorporating environmental health protection into our programs and giving older Americans the chance to train and empower youth to take action against these risks, we can ensure that future generations will have the tools to protect themselves from environmental health hazards.

For more information about environmental health risk to children, visit EPA's website at www.epa.gov/children or contact Ted Coopwood, in Office of Children's Health Protection at 202-564-2197 or by e-mail coopwood.theodore@epa.gov

Congratulations to GU's American Family Grantees

Generations United (GU) is pleased to announce that ten organizations have been chosen as recipients of GU's "American Family" $500 mini-grants. Their intergenerational projects all focus on the transfer of rich cultural traditions and family stories between the generations and support the critically acclaimed PBS series "American Family."

The following is a list of grant recipients and brief descriptions of their intergenerational projects:

- **Central Fulton Senior Services, Inc, Atlanta, GA** – *Youth and older adults will work together to develop a "Cultural Calendar" depicting the diverse cultural communities in the metro Atlanta area. The calendar will also showcase intergenerational activities both within and across cultures.*
- **City of White Plains Youth Bureau, White Plains, NY** – *This project will bring together Hispanic youth and older adults for a narrative journey. The older adults will share their life stories before coming to the U.S., their journey to the U.S. and their life in the U.S. The youth will share their experience of growing up with two cultures.*
- **Community Agency for Senior Citizens, Staten Island, NY** – *Older adults and students in an English as a Second language class will come together to exchange personal letters in which they write about their lives, families, and culture.*

- **Latin American Community Center, Wilmington, DE** – *Latino youth and older adults will come together for an Ancestors' Day Fiesta. The youth will interview the older adults about their youth in a Latino country, their immigration to the U.S., and their experience of acculturation. The youth will write up the interviews and post the information on the community center's webpage.*
- **Metropolitan Retiree Service Center, Detroit, MI** – *This project will bring together Hispanic elementary students and elders to share cultural experiences. The objectives are to preserve heritage, values and traditions for future generations and for the children to understand how their history and their culture affects who they are.*
- **Pathways, Inc., Granite Falls, MN** – *Together grandparents and the children they are raising will produce a hand-painted quilt celebrating the cultural richness of Minnesota including Scandinavian, Dakota, Hispanic, and African American.*
- **Penn Wood High School/ William Penn School District, Lansdowne, PA** – *Teenagers from Penn Wood High school and older adults will interview one another about family using a questionnaire, write their stories together, design a family memory quilt square and assemble the squares into two quilts – one to hang in the school and one to hang in the senior center.*
- **The Community Programs Center of Long Island, Inc., Edgewood, NY** – *Though personal childhood reminiscences, reading of traditional folk stories, and singing of traditional folk songs form their countries, Latino elders in CPC's Adult Day Program will share their personal and cultural histories with the children and staff at CPC centers. Intergenerational group activities will follow the session resulting in the creation of American Family Albums to be displayed in the lobbies of the centers.*
- **Volunteers of America of Greater New Orleans, Mandeville, LA** – *High school students, AmeriCorps members, and RSVP volunteers will come together to learn from one another about common bonds and differences through shared activities and oral history exchange. One outcome of the project is to open the door for future service learning and volunteer activities among the group to benefit the community.*
- **YMCA of Greater El Paso, El Paso, TX** – *This project will spotlight the rich family traditions and histories found in El Paso by engaging*

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INTERGENERATIONAL ADVOCATES,
continued from page 6

study/action projects that benefit their communities. I returned to the states with lots of ideas and enthusiasm in this regard. My impression is that in the U.S. we primarily focus on developing programs that benefit young and older but that don't also have the goal of promoting change in our communities. I think that we need to create more intergenerational models that take on a community development approach.

Attendees thanked Sally Newman for her seminal work in bringing the group to this point of organizational development. Members shared their e-mail addresses and intend to continue new relationships.

Many of us in the trenches may feel that we're either big fish in little ponds or little fish in big ponds. For several days, I felt like a little fish in a big pond. It was nice. I encourage everyone to become an ICIP member. I look forward to 2004 when ICIP will hold its next conference and the opportunity to again advance an international agenda.

Information about ICIP membership is available by emailing generations@bjf.org.uk or contacting Diane Steiner, ICIP, c/o The Beth Johnson Foundation, Parkfield House, 64 Princes Road, Hartshill, Stoke-on-Trent, ST4 7JL, United Kingdom, telephone 44-1782-844-036.

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Intergenerational Public Policy Update

by Jaia Peterson
Public Policy Coordinator

LEGACY Introduced in the House

On March 20th, Representatives Michael Capuano (D-MA) and Connie Morella (R-MD) demonstrated their strong support for grandparent-headed families with their introduction of the LEGACY Act: Living Equitably: Grandparents Aiding Children and Youth (H.R. 4033). This bill will help provide access to safe and affordable housing for grandparents and other relatives raising children. It includes provisions that will create demonstration programs to replicate Grandfamilies, a successful housing facility in Boston designed specifically for grandparents raising children; clarify that grandparent headed households are eligible for Family Unification Assistance; and call for training for frontline housing officials who, through no fault of their own, may be misinterpreting policies in a way that inappropriately limits housing for these families.

Generations United will work with Representatives Capuano and Morella to gain additional support for the bill on the House side. Senators Mary Landrieu (D-LA), Mike Dewine (R-OH) and Debbie Stabenow (D-MI) plan to introduce a companion bill on the Senate side and are seeking additional co-sponsors. Although GU works to educate members of Congress on the housing needs of grandparents and other relatives raising children, they want to hear from you, their constituents. If you support this legislation, contact your representative and ask him or her to co-sponsor H.R. 4033, the LEGACY act, or call your senators and tell them you support legislation planned for introduction by Senators Stabenow and Landrieu to help with housing for grandparents and other relatives raising children.

Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS)

In his State of the Union address, President Bush called on the Nation to "commit at least two years . . . four thousand hours over the rest of your lifetime... to the service of your neighbors and your nation." He announced plans to expand the efforts of Senior Corps and AmeriCorps programs through the USA Freedom Corps, a new convergence of service programs designed to engage citizens in service to their community for the purposes of homeland security.

Senior Corps and AmeriCorps programs fall under the umbrella of the Corporation for National and Community Services or CNCS (formerly known as the Corporation for National Service). Bipartisan plans for the reauthorization of CNCS are underway through the combined efforts of the administration and Senator Edward Kennedy (D-MA) who will lead the effort. The administration has unveiled their "Principles and Reforms" for the Citizen Service Act, the proposed reauthorization bill. Thanks to the work of GU members and other committed CNCS partners, the administration's principles include plans to lower the age requirements for participation in National Senior Service Corps, raise the income threshold for Foster Grandparents, and increase funds for demonstration projects, all of which were GU's legislative priorities for CNCS reauthorization. Based on the principles from the administration, Senator Kennedy plans to work with the members of the House and Senate to develop a bipartisan bill for introduction by mid to late Spring.

IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION

Addressing correspondence to a Senator:
The Honorable (full name)
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator (last name):

Addressing correspondence to a Representative
The Honorable (full name)
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative (last name):

The congressional switchboard can give you the direct phone number of your senator or representative. That number is 202-224-3121. There are a number of web sites that allow you to either send a message or to find contact information. One such site is www.congress.org.

Social Services Block Grant (SSBG)

Over the last several years funding for the Social Services Block Grant (SSBG) has been cut by over $1 billion. This has caused a vast reduction in vital services to people of all ages such as adult and child protective services, services to people with disabilities, meals programs, day care and transportation. Unlike many strict categorical funding streams, SSBG provides flexible funding that can be adapted to the unique needs of each community and cannot be easily replaced by other programs.

Recognizing the unique and vital role of SSBG, Generations United is working with a coalition of advocacy groups representing all ages to restore funding for the program to its original level of $2.8 billion. As a result of the efforts of this coalition, provisions to restore funding to SSBG are included in many of the TANF (Temporary Assistance to Needy Families) reauthorization proposals, the faith-based compromise bill - the CARE Act (S.1924), as well as legislation in both houses (S. 501, HB. 1470) that would restore this important block grant. If you support full funding for SSBG, contact your senators and representative and urge them to support one of these bills to make the restoration of SSBG to $2.8 billion a reality this year. *For up to date information on this and other legislation relevant to intergenerational programs and policies, visit the legislative alert and public policy update sections of GU's web site at www.gu.org.*

AMERICAN FAMILY GRANTEES, *continued from page 9*

youth and older adults in documenting and tracing their family roots and sharing their family histories, which will increase their cultural identity and promote family pride.

"American Family" is the first Latino drama ever to air on broadcast television. The show debuted January 23, 2002 on PBS and airs for 13 weeks. Created by Academy Award nominated director Gregory Nava (El Norte, Selena), the series features an all-star cast of top Latino talent including Edward James Olmos. Set in Los Angeles, the series chronicles the lives of the Gonzalez family and raises cross-generational and cultural issues that touch not only Latino families, but all families. Major funding for the AMERICAN FAMILY television series is provided by Johnson & Johnson, the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, and PBS. GU also thanks Outreach Extensions for their coordination and support with this project. Visit the American Family website at www.pbs.org/americanfamily for more information and local air dates and times.

SIGN UP TO RECEIVE LEGISLATIVE ALERTS

If you would like to receive timely legislative updates and alerts about what you can do to help pass intergenerational legislation, please contact Jaia Peterson by emailing jpeterson@gu.org or calling 202-638-1263.

Generations Together 10th International Intergenerational Training Institute

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, June 19-21

Generations Together invites you to celebrate with staff and other leaders in the intergenerational field the 10th anniversary of the International Intergenerational Training Institute. The Institute features three days of intensive interactive training to help participants develop the skills needed for success in the intergenerational field. Regardless of area of specialty, the Institute offers a broad knowledge of the dynamics of intergenerational programs and research.

For more information visit http://www.gt.pitt.edu/ or call 412-648-7150

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We Should Take Time to Connect Generations

By Sandy F. Kraemer,
President and Founder of Intergeneration Foundation, Sponsor of Intergeneration Day

In our society, children, elders and families are suffering the consequences of age-segregation and isolation. Age-integration can help address some of the serious social issues our children and seniors are facing. Intentionally connecting generations improves the quality of life for all.

As America ages, demographic changes will force us to become more engaged in intergenerational issues. Changing employment and family structure can lead to a loss of family supports. By reconnecting generations we rebuild people-to-people networks.

We have become a nation of hurriers. We abbreviate breakfast, drive through the fast food pick-up window for lunch, catch bits on television while eating dinner, then spend the evening on the computer before beginning the daily shutdown ritual with one eye open to catch a late-night show on television. We must take time to listen and understand other generations. Communication encourages affection and appreciation. The wisdom of the old and the enthusiasm of the young must be exchanged to avoid mistakes of the past and embrace opportunities in the future.

As America ages, demographic changes will force us to become more engaged in intergenerational issues. Changing employment and family structure can lead to a loss of family supports. By reconnecting generations we rebuild people-to-people networks.

Intergenerational stories changed my life. I grew up in a single-parent household. Inspirational stories my mother told about her father, who died when she was 10, have been a dominant influence in my life. Inspirational stories about the past often become powerful examples followed by future generations.

Every day presents opportunities to connect generations. Taking the initiative is the key. For Intergeneration Day, my daughter, Christina initiated a meaningful phone call to me with my grandchildren, my son-in-law and herself. She made me more conscious of the importance of initiating calls to my children and my mother-in-law more regularly.

Through communication, celebration and education, we can build stronger families and communities. Now is the time to begin making this a positive unifying experience for our loved ones, the forgotten ones, our communities and our nation.

For more information about the Intergeneration Foundation and Intergeneration day, visit www.intergenerationday.org, call 719-282-8190 or email info@intergenerationday.org.

INTERGENERATION DAY

OCTOBER 6TH

Correction

An article in the winter issue of Together incorrectly announced Intergeneration day on October 9th. The correct date for Intergeneration day is October 6th.

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Community Legacy Projects Promote Legislative Advocacy

Across the nation, community organizations, universities and other local groups will be engaging grandparents, children, youth, social service professionals and other community members in legislative advocacy projects to help grandparents and other relatives raising children. These projects planned in 12 communities over the next several months will feature the Academy-Award nominated documentary film, Legacy, as a springboard for discussion and to highlight issues affecting grandparents raising children today.

The film, which features a strong grandmother who helps to raise her grandchildren in inner city Chicago, highlights the multitude of issues affecting grandparents raising children. Community Legacy projects are using the film in a variety ways from holding a small screening for members of a support group to holding legislative advocacy conferences featuring members of Congress and members of the Collins family from the film.

GU thanks Outreach Extensions for their support and coordination of the Legacy effort. The Legacy campaign is also generously supported by grants from The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation and The Annie E. Casey Foundation.

Congratulations to the recipient of the $500 Legacy Mini-grants:

Mountain Empire Older Citizens, Inc.
Big Stone Gap, VA

George Mason University
Social Work Department
Fairfax, VA

Petal Association for Families
Petal, MS

Central Illinois Agency on Aging, Inc.
Peoria, IL

Renton Area Youth & Family Services (RAYS) West Hill Family Enrichment
Seattle, WA

Messiah Housing Corporation
Detroit, MI

Family Services
Cedar Rapids, Iowa

Interfaith Housing Development Corporation of Chicago
Chicago, IL

Family Support Center of Olympia, Washington
Olympia, WA

The Marilyn and Gordon Macklin Institute for Intergenerational Studies at the University of Findlay
Findlay, OH

John Marshall High School Youth Guidance
Chicago, IL

Windward Oahu Family & Community Education
Kaneohe, HI

For more information on these and other mini-grant opportunities stay tuned to the Generations United website at www.gu.org.

PROGRAM UPDATE
continued from page 4

- *Contact fraternities, sororities, and other campus-based organizations. Be sure to reach out to multicultural student organizations, many of which have strong traditions of service.*

Tips from Generations United's publication *Young and Old Serving Together: Meeting Community Needs Through Intergenerational Partnerships.*

For more information on GU's Intergenerational Program Efforts including Project SPARC, Project SHARE, the intergenerational program database, or to request a copy of the format to submit a program profile, please contact Sheri Steinig at 202-638-1263 or ssteinig@gu.org.

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New from the National Center on Grandparents Raising Children

Coming Soon! State-By-State Fact Sheets on Kinship Care:

Kinship care fact sheets for all 50 states and the District of Columbia are scheduled for release in June. Once completed, these fact sheets will be available to download from GU's web site and the web sites of many of the national partners: AARP, the Brookdale Foundation, Casey Family Programs National for Resource Family Support, Child Welfare League of America, Children's Defense Fund, GU, and the Urban Institute.

Each state fact sheet will include numbers of children living with grandparents or other relatives in or outside of the formal foster care system; descriptions of supportive programs to support kinship families, with contact information; child welfare policies for kinship caregivers and a contact for the child welfare office; and supportive laws with statutory citations.

Look for these fact sheets in early June on GU's web site at www.gu.org in the Kinship Care section.

Photo by Mae Hutchins

New Fact Sheet on Housing for Grandparent- and Other Relative-Headed Households

GU is publishing a new fact sheet on housing for grandparent- and other relative-headed households. The fact sheet will include a description of GrandFamilies House, the first housing program developed specifically for grandparents raising grandchildren, as well as descriptions of the many replication initiatives that GrandFamilies House has spawned around the country. The fact sheet will also include information on Living Equitably – Grandparents Aiding Children and Youth (LEGACY), federal housing legislation GU is working to pass to help provide safe and affordable housing to grandparents and other relatives raising children.

This fact sheet will be available beginning in early summer. As with all of GU's fact sheets, you can obtain one free of charge by going to www.gu.org or by calling 202-638-1263.

Expert Trainers Available

GU's National Center on Grandparents and Other Relatives Raising Children offers training and technical assistance on the National Family Caregiver Support Program and its inclusion of grandparents and other relatives raising children. This includes training on the overall issues of grandparents raising grandchildren as well as more specific information on how to support them through programs and policies. GU has contracted with a network of experts from around the country who will train professionals on various topics related to grandparents and other relatives raising children, such as respite care, support group development, mental health needs of the families, and legal issues.

How do these trainings apply to you? If you are a state unit on aging, an area agency on aging, or another community service provider who works with families in which grandparents or other relatives are raising children, you might want training from GU's Center. Training can include an expert from GU's Center coming to do a workshop or plenary at a training or conference you have planned, designing and implementing a day-long or half-day training for your group or community, or consulting with you to design a training and supplying you with educational materials.

To request a training go to www.gu.org to download the Training Request form, which can be found in the GU Resources section under Training. If you are unable to download the form, you can call Cara Goldstein at 202-638-1263 and request that one be faxed or mailed to you.

On the Road

GU continues to promote the intergenerational message through presentations, workshops and speeches throughout the country. Information about upcoming events is listed below.

JUNE

7-8
National Senior Service Corps Third National Training Conference, "Community Partnerships that Work: How National Organizations Can Help You Enhance Services and Expand Resources," Salt Lake City, Utah, Sheri Steinig with Joseph Montgomery, CWLA and Donna Thurmond, Volunteers of America

9-11
National Conference on Community Volunteering and National Service, "Reaching Across the Ages: New Approaches to Recruiting and Engaging Older Adult Volunteers," Salt Lake City, Utah, Sheri Steinig with Joseph Montgomery, CWLA

19-21
Generations Together 10th International Intergenerational Training Institute, Opening Plenary, Donna Butts; "Shared Site Programs," Jaia Peterson; "Parenting Grandparents," Jaia Peterson, David Fetterman, Generations Together.

26-27
National Healthcare Alliance and National Quality Caregiving Coalition National Conference, "Increased Support for Services Caregivers Need," Washington, DC, Maggie Biscarr

JULY

13-17
N4A's 27th Annual Conference, "Help for Grandparents and Other Relatives Raising Children through the National Family Caregiver SUpport Program," San Antonio, Texas, Donna Butts, Maggie Biscarr

OCTOBER

12-14
National Alliance for Caregiving's International Conference, "The National Family Caregiver Support Program and Projects of National Significance," and "Supporting Grandparents and Other Relatives Caring for Children Through Public Policy and Programs," Ana Beltran and Maggie Biscarr

18
Senior Affairs Commission Intergenerational Conference, San Bernardino County, CA, Keynote, Donna Butts

28-31
American Association of Homes and Services for the Aging Annual Meeting and Exposition, "Intergenerational Shared Sites: Enhancing Services, Building Community Support, and Connecting Generations," Baltimore, MD, Sheri Steinig, Jaia Peterson

If you would like to schedule someone from Generations United to address your conference or event, call 202-638-1263 or email gu@gu.org.

GENERATIONS UNITED MISSION

To foster intergenerational collaboration on public policy and programs to improve the lives of children, youth and the elderly.

VISION:
A society that values all generations.

CORE BELIEFS:
We believe the time has come for advocates for children, youth and older persons to work together to build and support a common agenda. Each generation has unique strengths to help meet the need of another. Efforts to create more decent societies rest on the interdependence of generations – past, living, and still to come. Further we believe:

- *Intergenerational collaboration will unite and improve our communities*
- *Every person, younger and older, is a resource and adds value*
- *Public policy should meet the needs of all generations*
- *Resources are more wisely used when they connect the generations rather than separate them*
- *Discrimination in any form limits a person's potential to contribute to the development of their community*
- *Grandparents and other relatives who step forward to raise children are providing an invaluable service to their families and our country.*

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Encore Hall's Wellness Curriculum Will Be Music To Seniors' Ears

"Old pro" is seldom a compliment in the youthful and fast-paced music industry, but the wellness curriculum being created for the Recording Academy's (GRAMMYs) senior living facility, Encore Hall, will change all that. Whether it's utilizing the knowledge and expertise of a musician or tapping into the energy of someone who appreciates and is stimulated by the creativity of music, Encore Hall (planned for an introductory location in the heart of Hollywood) will incorporate a curriculum designed to foster activity, creativity and relationship-building for its senior residents.

The Recording Academy has a long history of providing quality community programs. Health and human service outreach through MusiCares has grown to provide over $1 million annually to help needy members of the music community receive medical treatment, basic necessities such as food and shelter, and addiction recovery treatment.

Education and youth outreach are provided by the GRAMMY Foundation through programs such as GRAMMY Worksite Music Mentoring, which matches mentors with at-risk high school music students using music as the entry point of engagement. Partners in this effort include the National Mentoring Partnership and its local agencies, Big Brothers Big Sisters and industry companies coast to coast such as Fox Music (Los Angeles) and Arista Records (New York). Additionally, the GRAMMY Foundation's Leonard Bernstein Center For Learning model — a K-12 comprehensive school reform model that prepares teachers to use the arts and the artistic process to reinforce teaching and learning in all subjects — is being implemented in schools across the nation including sites in Oregon, Georgia, Pennsylvania, New York, Florida, California and the newest sites within the Los Angeles Unified School District.

By bringing together the best elements of the GRAMMY Foundation and MusiCares with a task force of researchers and designers, Encore Hall's wellness curriculum will offer a number of benefits to its residents: creative rejuvenation, intergenerational tolerance and teamwork, enhanced self-esteem for younger and older participants, positive "life re-purposing" for seniors, and a better sense of connection

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Young!

By Bard Lindeman
Syndicated Columnist,
In Your Prime

Q. You seem to think one part of successful aging is to associate with extravagant, often uncaring young people. I don't understand one thing about today's youth; why should I elect to live in their midst?

A. You probably aren't thrilled about eating vegetables; yet you include them in your menu. Why? Because, you are a rational, informed citizen who accepts that leafy, green vegetables are good for you.

Think then of young people as healthful vegetables. Try them in small portions; this way, you'll digest them better.

In their text "Successful Aging" (Pantheon Books; 1998), authors John W. Rowe, MD, and Robert L. Kahn, Ph.D., write how "Human beings are not meant to lead solitary lives...Talking, touching, and relating to others is essential to our well-being... (You must) connect with others, know what we have in common, help and be helped."

These specialists in gerontology are big on the health benefits of what they term "connectedness." At the opposite end of the emotional thermometer is isolation: "a lack of social ties" which represents "a powerful risk factor for poor health."

Now, are they mandating the old must live among the young? Not at all. In fact, they write, "No single type of support is uniformly effective for all people and all situations." It is the contention of this grandfather of six that the young are critical to a well-rounded life. As yeast is to bread, the young are to society. They offer us élan, and flavor! Thus, it's not "successful aging" but rather interesting successful aging that suggests the young be included in our experiences.

"The aging do not seem to play a very large role in this country's affairs—aging women less than men," writes Carolyn G. Heilbrun in "The Last Gift of Time: Life Beyond Sixty." She continues, "Without hearing from the young, I would feel only half alive." Heilbrun wrote this while still a

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In The Spotlight:

In the Spotlight: The Senior Services Program of the Child Welfare League of America

By Joseph Montgomery
Program Director for Senior Services

Last year, the Child Welfare League of America (CWLA) created a Senior Services Program as part of its newly formed Crittenton Child, Youth, and Family Development Division. The mission of the program is to create and promote opportunities for seniors to help children and families. This is not a new concept to CWLA. For years Generations United promoted senior services to CWLA affiliates before receiving their own grant from the Corporation for National Service (www.cns.gov). Today the Senior Services Program advances a creative and proactive agenda to promote the benefits of seniors and children interacting.

Recognizing that the aging population is a resource to meet the unmet needs of programming, one goal of the program is to integrate senior volunteerism in child welfare programming. The following are programs at CWLA and examples of how seniors can meet programming needs through volunteerism:

- *Adolescent Sexuality, Pregnancy Prevention, and Parenting – Seniors disseminate information about the latest developments in adolescent sexuality, pregnancy prevention, and parenting;*
- *Child Day Care – Seniors advocate for public policy to reauthorize the child care and development fund;*
- *Health Services – Seniors conduct outreach and education about successfully implementing the Child Health Insurance Program for children in the welfare system;*
- *HIV/AIDS – Seniors educate youth families on prevention techniques and testing sites;*
- *Housing and Homelessness – Seniors promote the Family Unification Program to provide Section 8 vouchers to family in the child welfare system and youth aging out of foster care;*
- *Parenting – Seniors provide education for homeless families with young children with the USG Positive Parenting Program for Homeless Families; and*
- *Youth Services – Seniors serve on advisory youth councils.*

Foster Grandparents, Eloise Bowers (left) and Joan Gross (right) volunteer at City Lights School in Washington D.C.

Another goal of the program is to provide current information to child welfare agencies and others about seniors. Visit CWLA's Senior Services WebPages at www.cwla.org/programs/senior/ to get a richer understanding about the gifts they have to offer in programming and intergenerational activities.

A recent survey of child welfare agencies, yielded helpful information about ways to increase positive results of senior volunteerism in child welfare related settings. First, use "welcoming" language. Do not say that you are going to use senior volunteers to do work. Say that you are going to utilize the gifts that seniors have to offer. Second, assign responsibilities to seniors that they want to perform. Making assumptions may lead to poor performance, lack of enthusiasm, or a negative experience for all parties. Third, refer potential senior volunteers to another agency if a position does not exist in your agency that meets the senior's desires. You will be surprised at how many seniors will be referred to you as well.

For other senior volunteerism tips or information on participating in audio conference training please contact Joseph Montgomery at seniorservices@cwla.org or (202) 942-0310.

KinNET Project Update

By Donna M. Rawls
KinNET Coordinator

GU's KinNET Project has developed a national network of support groups for relatives raising kin in foster care. Through regular site visits, GU staff learn about some of the unique ways agencies are providing support services to kin caregivers and share this information with other sites within the network.

During a visit to A Second Chance located in Pittsburgh, PA, GU staff participated with support staff and kinship caregivers at A Second Chance to construct a "kinship caregiver" quilt. After a few simple instructions, the caregivers were encouraged to use their imagination in making their individual patches. For example, one caregiver raising her three grandchildren following her daughter's violent death, decided to personalize her patch by constructing it with material from one of her daughter's dresses. A Second Chance reports that this project has been a positive experience for the staff and all the caregivers involved. They hope to have the quilt completed by July and available for display. GU is encouraging other KinNET sites and caregiver support groups to start similar projects. Kinship caregiver quilts are a unique and powerful way to display the large numbers of relatives caring for kin.

New KinNET Sites

KinNET is pleased to announce the addition of ten new sites for 2002-2003. GU received over 35 responses from across the country. The following sites will receive $10,000 each to establish support groups for relatives raising kin in foster care over the next two years:

- *Foundation of the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey Newark, NJ*
- *The National Center for Children and Families, Washington, DC*
- *Greater Richmond SCAN (Stop Child Abuse Now), Richmond, VA*
- *Family Care of Illinois, Chicago, IL*
- *Spaulding for Children, Southfield, MI*
- *Illinois Caucus for Adolescent Health, Chicago, IL*
- *Licking County Dept of Job and Family Services, Newark, OH*
- *Saginaw County Commission on Aging, Saginaw, MI*
- *Oklahoma State University Foundation in partnership with the OSU Gerontology Institute, Stillwater, OK*
- *The Children's Service Society of Utah , Salt Lake City, UT*

For more information about KinNET, visit GU's website at www.gu.org or contact GU at gu@gu.org or 202-638-1263.

Generations Adult Day Care Program and Child Care

Generations, located in Columbus, Ohio, is a collaborative, intergenerational partnership of Heritage Day Health Centers and the YWCA of Columbus. Heritage Day Health Centers operates an adult day program for 45 older adults who need varying levels of care and supervision. The YWCA operates a child care center for 75 children in the same building. The majority of the children live in homeless shelters or transitional housing with their families, which adds a unique quality to this intergenerational program.

Adults and children take part in intergenerational activities through music, cooking, art, games and more. A registered nurse is on site to provide health services to both adults and children.

Intergenerational programming offers the opportunity for shared experiences between old and young. Heritage Day Health Centers' clients are invited to play with, rock and feed the children. This interaction can occur in classrooms, play areas, and at mealtime. An infant nursery is located on the main floor of the facility adjacent to the adult activity room. Intergenerational activites occur throughout the day.

For more information contact Bonnie Walson, Heritage Day Health Centers at 614-236-0586 or email bwalson@heritagedayhealth.org.

Legislative Update: Grandparents and Other Relatives Raising Children

By Ana Beltran
Director, National Center on Grandparents and Other Relatives Raising Children

Colorado

On April 30, the Colorado legislature passed a bill, HB 02-1262, which would provide for an increase in the amount of allowable child income to qualify for child-only Temporary Assistance for Need Family (TANF) or "welfare" grants. Currently, in Colorado, if a child receives $117 in child support from a parent, that child is disqualified from receiving a $99 TANF child-only grant. In Denver county, the amount of assistance a child loses is even higher, because in addition to a $99 TANF payment, a child being raised by a grandparent or other relative is also eligible for $313 a month (with incremental increases for each additional child). This new law is very brief and not explicit.

For more information about its interpretation and implications, please contact Jenny Koch, Catholic Charities, Archdiocese of Denver at (303) 742-0823 ext.647 or jkoch@catholiccharitiesden.com.

Minnesota

On March 26, the Governor of Minnesota signed a de facto custodian/interested third party bill, SF 2673, into law. This law, effective August 1, 2002, governs third party actions for custody and visitation of children in family court. Third party actions include those brought by grandparents and other relatives raising children. The new law gathers all statutes pertaining to third-party custody into one chapter, establishes clear requirements for third party custody proceedings, defines interested third parties and de facto custodians, and sets forth specific burdens of proof and best interests analysis factors.

Minnesota now joins Kentucky and Indiana as states having similar de facto custody laws. The Minnesota law allows a relative caregiver to be considered a de facto custodian if he or she has been the primary caretaker for a child who has, within two years immediately prior to the filing of a custody petition, lived with the child without a parent present and with a "lack of demonstrated consistent participation by a parent" for (1) six months or more if the child is under three years old or (2) one year or more if the child is three years or older. "Lack of demonstrated consistent participation by a parent" is defined by the law in common sense terms:

> *refusal or neglect to comply with the duties imposed upon the parent by the parent-child relationship, including, but not limited to, providing the child necessary food, clothing, shelter, health care, education, creating a nurturing and consistent relationship, and other care and control necessary for the child's physical, mental, or emotional health and development.*

To establish that an individual is an interested third party, the individual must show that one of the following factors exist: (1) the parent has abandoned, neglected, or otherwise exhibited disregard for the child's well-being to the extent that the child will be harmed by living with the parent; (2) placement of the child with the third party takes priority over preserving the day-to-day parent-child relationship because of the presence of physical or emotional danger to the child, or both; or (3) other extraordinary circumstances.

If the court finds that the caregiver satisfies this definition of "de facto custodian" or that a person is an interested third party, the court will grant custody to the de facto custodian or interested third party if it is in the child's best interest. No preference will be given to a person solely because the person is a parent. Certain procedural protections are delineated in the law, including the fact that written notice of the petition must be given to explicit categories of people, including the parents, men married to the mother within a period of time before and after the child's birth, any guardian or legal custodian, and the child's tribe, if the child is an Indian child.

For further information concerning this law, contact Laurie Hanson, Senior Law Project, Legal Aid Society of Minneapolis at 612-827-3774 x207 or lhanson@midmnlegal.org.

Washington

The Washington legislature recently passed a bill, HB 1397, establishing a working group to examine issues facing relative caregivers. This group is to brief the legislature concerning specific legislative priorities to be considered in making kinship care a robust component of the out-of-home placements spectrum. This new law, which is effective June 13, 2002, includes the legislature's acknowledgement of the

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News from the STATES

MICHIGAN

Experience Senior Power is an interactive Internet program, utilizing children to teach senior citizens how to use computers in nursing homes, assisted living facilities, senior apartment complexes and community centers in Michigan and Texas. Ford Motor Company and the United Auto Workers are providing Experience Senior Power to two national family centers serving 50,000 UAW, Ford and Visteon salaried employees, family members and retirees. Dell Computer Corporation provides discounted computers to Experience Senior Power sites.

Experience Senior Power is the product of Michigan-based Maria-Madeline Project, Inc. www.mariamadeline.com provides a variety of free on-line senior services including, "ask the expert" advice from an occupational therapist, registered dietitian, registered nurse, attorney, Alzheimer's Association representative, CPA, dentist and Italian chef. *Nutrition News* and *Spiritual Care* offer seniors and caregivers articles on healthy diet and emotional well-being.

Seniors and children chat with their peers around the country about favorite recipes, books, pets and vacations. They post photos of their friends and families in "Family Scrapbook." One of www.mariamadeline.com's most popular features is Write Your Biography, where you'll read each senior's biography, written by the very children teaching them the ins and outs of computer technology.

For more information call 248-398-6438 or visit www.mariamadeline.com.

NEW YORK

Mount Kisco Day Care Center has been serving the children and families of Mt. Kisco and Northern Westchester for the past 30 years. It has always been our goal to provide affordable, quality day care for everyone in this community. We take pride in meeting the needs of our diverse population.

After building a legendary foundation for outstanding childcare…we now have a modern, state-of-the-art facility in which to house it! Our remarkable intergenerational facility will open its doors each day to a whole new world for children and older adults in this community.

As the name intergenerational implies, our children spend parts of their day with seniors who will be sharing the building. Our goal is to foster a truly nurturing environment in which some of the key relationships of childhood are recreated. But this wonderful experience marks only the beginning of the many advantages our modern facility provides.

With over 20,000 sq.ft of living space, our new building will be home to 139 children ages 3 months to 12 years along with 50 seniors. Our intergenerational facility provides a cozy setting that mirrors the warmth and security of home. We provide nurturing sensitive care for children and seniors throughout the day.

Thanks to the generosity of so many caring contributors in our community, our dream of providing childcare in a natural environment has become a reality. Mount Kisco opened the doors of the new building in May, 2002.

For more information, contact Dorothy Jordan or Dawn Meyerski at Mt. Kisco Day Care Center 914-241-2135 or E-Mail at MKDCC@AOL

OHIO

An Intergenerational Recipe

By Jeannette Lee and Jeanette Andersen, University of Findlay

Combine two toddlers and one senior adult with water and flour, and what do you get? Cookies!

The Marilyn and Gordon Macklin Institute for Intergenerational Studies at The University of Findlay in Findlay, Ohio, provides an environment for children and senior adults to share their life experiences on a daily basis. Intergenerational

Emily, Tex and Jael mix a little bit of creativitity and discussion into their cookie recipe.

experiences that emphasize interaction, not entertainment, are mutually beneficial to both ends of the age spectrum, foster relationships, and improve the quality of life for those involved.

A favorite activity of the older toddlers at The University of Findlay's Lifelong Educational Center is baking cookies with their senior friends at Winebrenner Village. In the photo, Emily, Tex, and Jae share and compare their cooking experiences. Tex recalls fond memories of his mother baking cookies for him, while Emily and Jael have their own ideas of what goes into a cookie recipe. Here is where the magic happens; open discussion, enhanced self-esteem and self-worth, combined stimulation, enthusiasm and companionship are ultimately achieved by the time the cookies are done baking.

Oblivious to the benefits of intergenerational interactions such as this, Emily, Tex and Jael will tell you the best part of this activity is eating the cookies...together.

For more information contact the Marilyn and Gordon Macklin Institute for Intergenerational Studies at The University of Findlay at 419-434-6990, or email haley@mail.findlay.edu for more information.

TEXAS

Foster Grandparents Close Void at Fort Bliss

by Sue Ullbarri

For many children of active-duty soldiers, "grandpa" and "grandma" are only familiar as distant voices of tenderly wished "happy birthdays" or faint memories of warm, long-awaited holiday hugs during Christmas visits.

At Fort Bliss, Texas, child and youth services staff rekindles the bond between grandparent and child with volunteers from the Foster Grandparent Program in their child development centers. The Foster Grandparents Program (FGP) is a community-based service provided by Senior Service Corps, part of the Corporation for National Service. Fort Bliss has partnered with the FGP for nearly 20 years.

"The goal of the program is to provide emotional support to children from all backgrounds, through mentoring, tutoring and care," said Maria Valdivia, FGP coordinator in El Paso. "I've had many foster grandparents say that if it wasn't for this program and the children they are with everyday, they would just be at home wilting away. That's one of the most important parts of the program. It doesn't just serve a child, it serves the senior, the staff at the volunteer site and the community as a whole."

Although foster grandparents are trained to work with special needs children, they will interact with any child that can benefit from their extra attention. It may be a child that is a little behind his peers in language development or a child that may be upset because a parent has just been deployed.

When they arrive at the CDC, the staff provides them with a volunteer plan. "It gives them very specific direction as to what they are supposed to do with the child they are eventually assigned with," said Valdivia. FGP volunteers must keep written reports. "The foster grandparents have to show that they are making qualitative progress. The report can show the child has raised his reading level or become more independent or fluent in speech," she explained.

Fort Bliss' CDCs and El Paso's FGP staff evaluate the foster grandparents at Bliss

Foster Grandparent and children at Fort Bliss Child and Youth Services.

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Foster Grandparent and child at Fort Bliss Child and Youth Services.

annually. There is also a "thank you" and appreciation lunch for all the work they do for the children of Fort Bliss. They are recognized for committing to the program, getting up early 5 days a week and some catch two or three buses to reach the centers to be here for the child. They show the staff what a commitment is and are an inspiration to everyone who works with them.

This article was excerpted from MWR (Morale, Welfare & Recreation) Feedback magazine, a product of the U.S. Army Community and Family Support Center. For more information about the Foster Grandparents Program visit www.nationalservice.org.

VIRGINIA

Students Share - Seniors Fare

by Glenna C. Orr

As a result of collaboration, passion, and hard work, last fall junior college students from Northern Community College Annandale, Virginia in conjunction with members of the Philippine Cultural Association of George Mason University celebrated a forgotten hallmark of American society.

After much planning, these students put on a show for the residents of Renaissance Gardens Nursing Home, located on the GreenSpring Village Retirement Complex. Eight male and female students performed nine traditional Philippine dances, followed by a piano recital. The students then spent a few hours with the seniors talking about each other's life experiences and simply enjoyed each other's company.

Inspired by this visit, the Philippine Cultural Association has begun to visit Renaissance Gardens Nursing Home on a routine basis to engage with residents in a variety of activities. Another cultural dance performance has been requested for the spring of 2002. According to Ms. Sharon Lowe, the Program Manager of the Renaissance Gardens, enlivening her residents with this type program is something the center is very adamant about and is thankful to the college students.

This goes to show that a simple and sincere expression of caring and sharing is all it takes to make life a little better for our senior citizens and inspire youth to reach out and volunteer; thus, improving the quality of life in our communities. It is these activities that truly make our American society a hallmark.

Glenna C. Orr is a Professor at Northern Virginia Community College and a Teacher-Mentor for Fairfax County Virginia Public Schools. She has been inspiring student involvement and establishing programs like these and other intergenerational after school programs, for over 15 years. For more information contact Glenna Orr at 703-549-6379.

Students fromthe Phillipine Cultural Association of George Mason University, perform for residents of the Renaissance Gardens Nursing Home.

SHARED SITES
continued from page 1

their state or locality, but are isolated from others doing similar work.

Since this is an emerging field, there is not consensus on the definition of intergenerational shared site programs. Generations United currently uses the definition developed by AARP which states intergenerational shared sites are programs in which multiple generations receive ongoing services and/or programming at the same site, and generally interact through planned and/or informal intergenerational activities. Examples of intergenerational shared sites range from co-located child day care and continuing care retirement community to intergenerational community centers designed and built specifically for children, youth, and older adults rather than isolated senior centers and teen centers. Intergenerational shared resource programs refer to the effective use of agency and community resources through sharing of staff and equipment among programs that serve children/youth and those that serve older adults.

Project SHARE

GU recognizes the inherent benefits of connecting generations, sharing resources, and strengthening communities through intergenerational shared sites and shared resource programs. With the generous support of the Helen Andrus Benedict Foundation, Generations United established Project SHARE (Sharing Helps All Resources Expand). Project SHARE is a field-building initiative designed to advance policy and practice related to intergenerational shared sites and shared resources. The primary components of Project SHARE are: convening a national expert symposium on intergenerational shared sites and shared resources, publishing and disseminating an action agenda, and providing training and technical assistance.

The National Symposium

Generations United held a national symposium in April 2001 that brought together nearly 50 of the leading experts from child welfare, child care, aging, government, academic, and intergenerational communities for two days of strategic discussion on the issues. Three background papers from noted experts in the field were developed on the following topics: programs, public policy, and research. The authors of the papers outlined some of the key issues and provided recommendations for future action. These papers served as a springboard for discussion at the symposium.

Symposium discussions were based on the overarching question: What Is Our Best Wisdom For Creating An Action Agenda To Promote Intergenerational Shared Sites In Communities Nation-Wide? Participants created a vision for intergenerational shared sites and shared resource programs and developed practical and innovative actions to systematically support and promote the development of intergenerational shared sites and shared resource programs. These discussions helped participants to develop the recommendations put forth in the action agenda.

The Action Agenda

This intergenerational action agenda includes key recommendations and background information for advocates at the local, state, and national level who want to promote, develop, and expand intergenerational shared sites and shared resources in communities across the country. Reaching Across the Ages: An Action Agenda to Strengthen Communities through Intergenerational Shared Sites and Shared Resources is designed as a launching point for national, regional, and local efforts to support and encourage the development of intergenerational shared sites and shared resource programs. Generations United is committed to leading the campaign to expand the use of facilities and community resources by members of multiple generations.

Recommendations

The recommendations put forth in *Reaching Across the Ages* are divided into four sections: program, public policy, research and evaluation, and communication. The recommendations are directed toward supporters of intergenerational shared site programs including federal and state policymakers, non-profit advocacy organizations, the business community, local community groups, and providers directly serving children, youth, and older adults in intergenerational shared sites or by sharing resources.

The following are the overall recommendations put forth to encourage the growth of intergenerational shared site programs:

- *Gather Information*
- *Provide Access to Training and Technical Assistance*
- *Explore and Develop Funding Options*
- *Establish and Support a National Network*
- *Build the Field of Practice*
- *Educate Policy Makers and the Public*
- *Promote Federal Government Involvement in Intergenerational Shared Site Education*
- *Advocate for Opportunities for Demonstration Projects*
- *Conduct Research About Intergenerational Shared Site Programs*
- *Develop a Practice-Related Research Agenda for the Coming*

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NEW RESOURCES

Chicken Soup for the Grandparent's Soul

Written by New York Times Best Selling Authors, Jack Canfield, Mark Victor Hamsen, Meladee MaCarty, and Hanoch MaCarty, this collection of short stories is for every audience generation. If you're a grandparent, these stories will remind you of the value of your contributions to your family and make clear what an honored position you hold within your circle of loved ones. If you are a son, daughter, or grandchild, you will relive your memories of your parents and grandparents. For more information about this book, contact 800-KINDNESS.

Wiley Josey-Bass Annual Catalog
A catalog featuring resources for nonprofit organizations in the areas of creativity, leadership, and finance. Visit www.josseybass.com/promo/n3y or call 800-956-7739.

Children and Youth Publications
A catalog featuring new publications on children and youth. Themes include Education, Child Abuse and Neglect, School Violence, Drugs, Health and Sexuality. For more information visit www.HaworthPress.com or call 800-429-6784.

The Volunteer Recruitment Book
This is the third edition of the book which is a useful tool for recruiting volunteers for your cause. Visit www.energizeinc.com

Wisdom to Chose
Resource that will guide seniors, and those soon to become seniors, to a successful quality of life. For more information, please call 818-700-2522.

Childswork Childsplay
This resource addresses the social and emotional needs of children and adolescents through their publication of various anger management books and tools. Visit www.guidancechannel.com or call 516-349-5521.

The Foundation Directory 2002
A catalog featuring resources for fundraising and nonprofit development. Resources included books, software, and online tutorials. For more information, visit www.fdncenter.org/marketplace or call 800-424-9836.

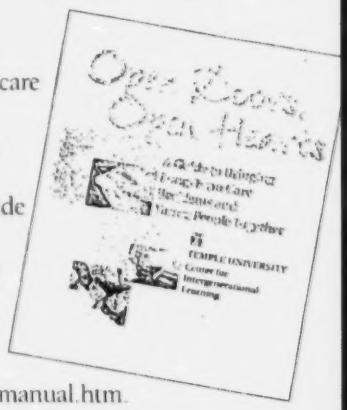
Resources for Alzheimer's Caregivers
A catalog featuring resources for Alzheimer's patients and caregivers. Catalog includes Alzheimer's activities, novels, and videos. For more information, visit www.rayverproductions.com or call 707-838-2220.

Campaign For Our Children Educational Media Guide
This resource features educational media and tools for children, teens, and parents on an array of different issues. Issues include: child communication, pregnancy prevention, responsibility, child support, and sexually transmitted diseases. For more information visit www.cfoc.org or call 410-576-9015.

Child Welfare League (CWLA) Catalog
This catalog will provide many tools and products of vital interest to professionals working with children and their families. You will also find children's books and titles on parenting. For more information visit www.cwla.org/pubs or call 800-407-6273

Children's Health Under Medicaid: A National Review of EPSDT
This resource aids in better understanding and pursuing preventive care for children. For more information visit www.healthlaw.com or call 310-204-6010

Open Doors, Open Hearts



This guide is easy-to-read and a practical way to help long-term care facilities, schools, and youth organizations form partnerships and create intergenerational programs. It also serves as a guide to enhance existing programs. The manual includes 26 activity plans that are successfully proven in various parts of the country. For more information visit www.temple.edu/cil/OPENmanual.htm.

University of Oklahoma National Resource Center for Youth Services Catalog
The resource provides tools such as videos and books to aid in the fields of youth transitions, teen life, and cultural transitions. For more information contact 800-274-2687

Lots of Learning Catalog
This catalog provides resources and tools for teen parenting and foster care. Tools include games, software, videos, and books. For more information visit www.lotsoflearning.com or contact 800-777-6636.

The Bureau for At-Risk Youth
The Bureau for At-Risk Youth has several tools regarding care for youth who have been through traumatic experiences. Their most recent tool is the Emotional Recovery Resource Kit, which is a kit that contains hand-on tools to facilitate recovery from traumatic experiences. For more information visit www.at-risk.com

FamilySupportAmerica.com
This is an on-line database of family support programs. Database available at www.familysupportamerica.com

Free Spirit Publishing Catalog
Provides resources for kids, teens, and parents in the fields of self-help, early childhood, parenting and teaching. For more information visit www.freespirit.com or call 800-735-7323

Partners
This handbook provides a powerful tool for partnering with the business community by providing checklists and information to help you assess recruitment needs and strategies. For more information call 888-295-6727 or visit www.casey.org/cnc

AAA Traveling With Your Grandkids

Written by psychologist, author, grandmother, and seasoned traveler Virginia Smith Spurlock, this book is an excellent tool to plan your "grandtravel" events with the family. One of the most growing travel trends in America is that of grandparents traveling with their grandkids. This book will guide and give you practical advice to help you plan and make your trip come true. For more information visit, www.aaa.com or call 877-AAA-BOOK.

Homeshare in Europe

The Homeshare program, a program where seniors volunteer their homes to house a college student in return for companionship, has been a great success in the UK, Spain, Germany, Austria and the parts of the U.S. This resource provides highlights of these programs and will provide you with the necessary information to begin such a program in your community. For more information visit www.homeshare.org

National Education Service Catalog
This tool provides an array of resources to choose from regarding family, youth, alcohol and drug abuse, community involvement, and counseling service. To receive a cataloge or for more information contact 800-733-6786 or vist www.nesonline.com

***Dancing Across the Keys* by Curie Nova**
A fiction murder mystery whose proceeds go towards foundations for Seniors. For more information visit www.curienova.com

Population Matters Policy Brief
Published by the Rand organization, this brief includes data on the world population, aging, and life expectancy. Policy implications are also explored. For more information visit www.rand.org/labor/popmatters

Volunteer Market Place Catalog
Provided by the Points of Light Foundation, this catalog offers tools in volunteer management, non-profits, fundraising, and youth and family programming. For more information contact 800-272-8306.

Long-Term Care Planning: A Dollars and Sense Guide
This guide provides evaluative tools needed before buying a healthcare policy. For more information please call 800-637-2604.

Guilford Spring Catalog
This resource catalogue provides a listing of books, journals, and literature in psychology, psychotherapy, and mental health for children, adolescents, families, and couples. For more information visit www.guilford.com or call 800-365-7006.

Self-Discovery Tapestry Kit
This is a unique assessment tool that helps individuals document transitions, understand their coping styles and gain insight into their strengths and

Linking Lifetimes: A Global View of Intergenerational Exchange

This book brings together a range of contributions from several experts across the world in the intergenerational field. Each expert provides a number of different perspectives and ideas on how communities should maintain their rich heritage and foster intergenerational interaction. For more information please visit www.univpress.com or call 800-462-6420.

accomplishments. For more information visit www.lifepublishing.com or call 310-316-5227.

Active Parenting Publishers Guide
This catalogue provides a resource guide for useful tools in various categories. Categories include parenting, education, childhood, teens, preteens, faith, divorce, loss, grief, and much more. For more information please visit www.activeparenting.com or call 800-825-0060.

Living With Grief Loss in Later Life
With a foreword by Senator John Breaux, Chairman of the Senate Special Committee on Aging, and with the contributions of over twenty nationally recognized experts, this book offer insight and practical suggestions on coping with loss. For more information please contact 800-854-3402 or visit http://www.hospicefoundation.org

Community-Based Organization (CBO) Schools
Published by the Center for Youth Development and Policy Research, this book profiles the story of 11 CBO schools. Such stories allow the reader to gage the effectiveness of CBO schools as an alternative to traditional school settings. For more information please contact 202-884-8267 or visit http://www.transformationaleducation.com

Grandparents as Careers of Children with Disabilities
This book studies the challenges and needs of the grandparents and their disabled grandchildren. Contained in this books are national studies and findings. For more information contact 800-429-6784.

Calendar of Events

JUNE

Summer Series on Aging: West Coast Conference in San Francisco. For more information visit www.asaging.org/nlc/online.html

9-12

National Conference on Community Volunteering and National Service, sponsored by the Points of Light Foundation. For more information visit www.pointsoflight.org

15

Join Hands Day, Sponsored by America's Fraternal Benefit Societies. For more information visit www.joinhandsday.org

19-21

Generations Together 10th International Intergenerational Training Institute, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. For more information visit http://www.gt.pitt.edu/

JULY

Summer Series on Aging: East Coast Conference in Philadelphia. For more information visit www.asaging.org/nlc/online.html

7-10

The 14th International Congress on Child Abuse and Neglect, "Charting our progress toward protection of children worldwide," presented by the International Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect and the Kempe Children's Foundation, Denver, Colorado. For more information visit www.kempecenter.org.

26-28

The National Youth Summit, "Supportive families, Safe and Healthy Lives, Economic Self-Sufficiency, Settings and Opportunities for Development and Service," Washington DC, Hilton, sponsored by US Department of Health and Human Resources. For more information please contact 1-800-223-2936 or visit http://www.acf.dhhs.gov/programs/fysb/summit.html

OCTOBER

28-30

EASI Intergenerational Conference, "2002 A Decade of Service: Generations of Experience," North East, Maryland. For more information call 540-788-3274 or visit www.easi.org.

28-31

2002 AAHSA Annual Meeting and Exposition, Baltimore, Maryland. For more information visit www.aahsa.org.

GENERATIONS UNITED BOOK ORDER FORM

TITLE	COST	QUANTITY	TOTAL
NEW Celebrate the Generations: Intergenerational Week Guidebook	$10.00	_____	_____
Grandparents and other Relatives Raising Children: Background Papers from Generations United's Expert Symposium	$5.00	_____	_____
Strengthening the Social Compact: An Intergenerational Strategy	$5.00	_____	_____
Grandparents and Other Relatives Raising Grandchildren: Grassroots Concerns and Solutions from Across the United States	$5.00	_____	_____
Young and Old Serving Together: Meeting Community Needs Through Intergenerational Partnerships	$18.00	_____	_____
Older Adults Caring for Children: Intergenerational Child Care	$15.00	_____	_____
Generations United Public Policy Agenda for the 107th Congress (FREE TO MEMBERS)	$5.00	_____	_____
Something to Remember Me By & Building Connections Between Young & Old. (Hardback)	$5.00	_____	_____
Building Connections Between Young and Old (A readers companion to *Something to Remember Me By.*)	$1.00	_____	_____
NEW A Guide to the National Family Caregiver Support Program and Its Inclusion of Grandparents and Other Relatives Raising Children	$7.00	_____	_____

Name: _____

Ship To: _____

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Bill To (If different):

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GRAND TOTAL _____

MEMBERSHIP DISCOUNT: _____
GU members subtract 25% from total

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(All prices include postage and handling)

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GU Welcomes New Board Member

Charles W. Gould
President and Chief Executive Officer
Volunteers of America

Charles W. Gould serves as national president and chief executive officer of Volunteers of America, one of America's largest and most comprehensive charitable nonprofit human services organizations. Volunteers of America, with headquarters in the Washington, D.C. area, has more than 11,000 employees in 40 states and helps more than 1.3 million people each year. A wide range of programs provide services to children, teenagers, the elderly, families in crisis, the homeless, persons with disabilities and mental illness and ex-offenders returning to society.

Before his selection as national president in 1995, Gould was president of Volunteers of America Health Services, a division of the organization that provides skilled nursing care and other health services. Previously he was an attorney with Arnold & Porter and Hogan & Hartson, law firms in Washington, D.C.

Gould is a graduate of the University of Minnesota Law School. He is a member of the Minnesota, District of Columbia and Colorado State bars. He serves on the board of directors and as chairman of the National Assembly of Health and Human Service Organizations; on the board of directors and as chairman of the American Association of Homes and Services for the Aging. He is also a member of the national advisory board of "Make a Difference Day," sponsored by the Gannett Corp.

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GU extends a special thanks to our year-end contributors:
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Judy Vredenburgh, PA
Sheldon Goldberg, NY
Donna Butts
Wini McDuffie

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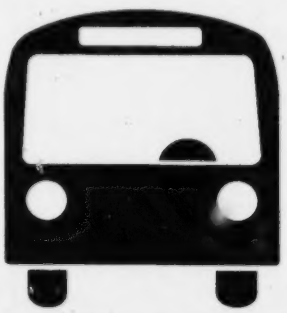
Senior Connections: Young and Old Share Georgia Transit System

Senior Connections, which is a long-term care provider for the senior population in DeKalb County, Georgia, operates several programs to help older persons stay in their home and community. It's services include: home delivered meals, non-emergency medical transportation, home repair services, senior center services, case management, and information and referral.

Recently the State of Georgia mandated the consolidation of state-funded transportation programs that serve vulnerable populations and further required that they provide service for recipients of TANF (Temporary Assistance to Need Families) clients. Senior Connections entered into a partnership with the DeKalb Community Service Board (DCSB) which funds mental health, mental retardation and substance abuse programs and also has the largest fleet in the county. Combined, the two agencies operate over 100 vans. DCSB is the fiscal agent for the partnership and Senior Connections is the operating manager.

The first step is a pilot project in which Senior Connections takes welfare to work clients to and from job sites and, on the way, drops off and picks up their children at daycare centers. During the rest of the day the agency shuttles seniors to medical and dental appointments and takes disabled clients to medical appointments or to job sites. For example, Senior Connection transports a group of young mentally retarded adults to a job site where they work in an electronic assembly plant.



In spite of concerns about mixing these populations the project has gone quite well. Some groups such as younger and older riders mix especially well.

In spite of concerns about mixing these populations the project has gone quite well. Some groups such as younger and older riders mix especially well. Of particular note, the last group and the seniors enjoy each other's company and look forward to seeing each other when they board the van.

For more information contact Senior Connections at 770-455-7602 ext. 118 or visit www.srconn.org.

YOUNG!

continued from page 16

college professor. She explains if "We wish to keep up with at least some part of what is going on in the world, it is the young to whom we must turn...(for) the feel of life, its beat as it sounds each day."

Now, if our society is to achieve a healthful "connectedness", then young people must also pay some mind to we who are older. Professor Heilbrun agrees, arguing the young need us—to be around and available. "We reassure them that life continues," she says, "and if we listen (to them), we assure them that it matters to us it continues..." She counsels that senior adults not "tiresomely insist the past was better." Perhaps the young will be more receptive to our gifts. "What to call it?" Heilbrun asks, referring to the gifts. She next answers, "It is the essence of having lived long, it is the unstated assurance that most disasters pass, it is the survival of deprivation and death and rejection that renders our empathy of value."

There is immense comfort, and worth, in old friends, old routines and familiar ground. Yet, the older adult must be open to new things, to newness itself, and change. "Really, aging is not the enemy—nor is death," writes Gail Godwin in her novel, "The Finishing School."

"We ought to fear the kind of death that happens in life," she adds. "Some people stop growing, learning, or changing...they congeal!...Another kind of person is fluid, keeps moving forward, making new trysts with life. They are alive, and fun to be with."

These are the people—both young and older—who bring zest, flavor and meaning to the table of long life.

SHARED SITES
continued from page 23

Decade

- *Create a Network of Researchers and Practitioners*
- *Design and Deliver a Clear, Consistent Message*

Growing Visibility

The value of intergenerational shared sites is becoming increasingly visible. In response to a congressional mandate, the commission on Affordable Housing and Health Facility Needs for Seniors in the 21st Century was created to study several issues relevant to the commission. Among the areas of study, the commission was mandated to examine how to establish intergenerational learning and care centers and living arrangements. Last year the commission began holding a series of field hearings and asked Generations United to testify about intergenerational shared sites and living arrangements for grandparents raising children. The testimony was well received and GU helped to prepare the commission's report to Congress. The report, which is expected to be released in June will be the basis for much of the legislative action for senior housing and health facilities in the next several years and provides potential opportunities for significant expansion of intergenerational shared sites across the country.

For more information on intergenerational shared sites and shared resource programs or to request a copy of Reaching Across the Ages: An Action Agenda to Strengthen Communities through Intergenerational Shared Sites and Shared Resources, *contact GU at gu@gu.org or (202) 638-1263.*

ENCORE HALL
continued from page 16

between seniors and their community.

And music is the key. According to a study by Michigan State professor of music therapy Dr. Frederick Tims and presidential advisor to the American Music Therapy Association Karl Bruhn, participants in wellness-enhanced keyboard lessons experienced decreased anxiety, depression and loneliness, and the researchers suggested that learning to play music in a supportive, socially enjoyable setting has been shown to play a key role in minimizing some of the effects of aging. Encore Hall's wellness curriculum will aim to bring that premise to seniors in a dignified and comfortable setting.

For more information, contact Kelly Burgos at MusiCares by calling 310-392-3777 or visit the MusiCares area of GRAMMY.com.

Membership Information

Become a Generations United Member Today

Generations United is the only national membership organization focused solely on promoting intergenerational policies, strategies and programs. Members support the work of GU and can provide direct input into GU's priorities.

Membership benefits include:

- *annual subscription to Together, GU's quarterly newsletter*
- *conference and educational event discounts*
- *public policy alerts and briefings*
- *access to our national program profile database*
- *linkage to GU's web page*
- *discounts on GU publications*
- *and much more!*

Join Generations United today to support and strengthen the intergenerational movement nationally and in Washington, DC. If you have any questions, please contact us at 202/638-1263.

Membership Application:

Name: _____

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Dues are paid on a yearly basis:

❑ Individual membership-$50
❑ Individual sustaining-$100*
❑ Student or Retiree membership-$25
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Contact GU directly for more information before sending in form.

** Contributions above the basic membership fee support the work of Generations United and are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.*

Please make check payable to Generations United and return to: Generations United 122 C Street, N.W., Suite 820, Washington, DC 20001-2109

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LEGISLATIVE UPDATE
continued from page 19

tremendous service provided by relative caregivers:

The legislature recognizes that relatives increasingly are assuming the responsibility for raising the children of their loved ones. The parents of these children are unable to fulfill this responsibility themselves because of various and complex reasons.

The legislature recognizes that these kinship caregivers perform a vital function in our society by providing homes for children who would otherwise be at risk of foster care placement. These homes offer stability to children in crisis and enhance family reunification. Outcome data shows that children in the care of relatives are less likely to enter state custody, and most of these arrangements do not require intensive supervision of the placement by the courts or by the department of social and health services. The legislature recognizes that kinship care is a legitimate and important component in the spectrum of out-of-home placements available to children in need.

The legislature recognizes that these kinship caregivers face many difficulties and need assistance to support the health and well-being of the children they care for. These needs include, but are not limited to, legal assistance, respite care services, financial assistance, counseling, and other supportive services.

It is encouraging to see a legislature state in law what most of those who work with these families know already.

For additional information about this law, contact Hilari Hauptman, Adult & Aging Services Administration, Washington Department of Social and Health Services at (360) 725-2556 or HauptHP@dshs.wa.gov.

Generations United

International Conference

Special Grandparenting Workshops available

SAVE THE DATE

October 15-18, 2003
Old Town Alexandria, VA
(minutes from Washington, D.C.)

Generations United is pleased to announce that our **12th International Conference** will be held **October 15-18, 2003,** in Alexandria, Virginia, outside of Washington, D.C. Look for the call for proposals later this year. For more information, contact **Generations United at 202-638-1263 or gu@gu.org**
Please save these dates and we hope to see you there!

Intergenerational Approaches:
Not Just Nice ... Necessary

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a national coalition dedicated to intergenerational policy, programs and issues

For more information, call 202-638-1263 **e-mail: gu@gu.org** **www.gu.org**

Together

THE GENERATIONS UNITED NEWSLETTER • Volume 7 • Number 3

PRIME TIME: HOW BABY BOOMERS WILL REVOLUTIONIZE RETIREMENT AND TRANSFORM AMERICA

By Marc Freedman
President, Civic Ventures

Our enormous and rapidly growing older population- commonly portrayed as a burden to the nation and a drain on future generations- is a vast, untapped social resource. If we can engage these individuals in ways that fill urgent gaps in our society, the result would be a windfall for American civic life in the twenty first century. We might just accomplish something else along the way: bring greater fulfillment and purpose to the postmidlife years and transform what it means to age in this country.

Grand prize photo from GU photo contest by Mary Beth Burkholder. Chelsea and Kaila hug Hazel, their special friend at the Friends Care Center nursing home, which houses the preschool.

This is the argument of *Prime Time*. And with its publication in spring 2000, I set out on tour designed to communicate the book's message as widely as possible. Many of the people I met agreed emphatically with the notion that older Americans are an overlooked national asset, and some were already at work forging "second acts" dedicated to public service.

One of the most inspiring encounters occurred early in the tour, in San Diego, where I appeared on a morning interview show at the local National Public Radio station. After talking with me about *Prime Time*, the show's host asked listeners to respond to the ideas being discussed. His invitation unleashed a procession of calls.

On the line was Mary, a women just turned sixty. However, she had not phoned to announce her own third-age civic heroics. "I would like to disagree with everything that's been said," she began in a voice polite but quavering with emotion. I was stunned. Wasn't the notion that older adults are an important social asset obvious to all? How could anybody disagree so vehemently, especially somebody in this stage of life themselves?

To make matters worse, Mary wasn't a crank. She was simply someone who had worked hard since age sixteen, functioning as a paragon of productivity for more than forty years, opting to put on the brakes only when her boss persisted in heaping greater and greater responsibility on her. Finally she said, "That's it," and retired.

Having also, along the way, raised children on her own, she was exhausted. And though Mary was by no means yearning for the golf-course retirement of her parents' generation (her goal was to walk on the beach and to meditate), she was offended by what sounded like my exhortation to take on more duties, make more contributions, do more work.

In the coming weeks I heard this protest from others, interspersed among more affirmative reactions. Its recurrence forced me to a pair of realizations. The first was that I was

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From the Executive Director: Donna Butts

"It's like so . . . duh!" This wonderful comment was made about intergenerational approaches by a senior official during a recent meeting with staff from the Department of Health and Human Services' Administration on Children, Youth and Families. I'd been invited to meet and prepare for a GU presentation for the leaders of their various bureaus. As we spoke it became quite clear they got it. Using intergenerational approaches makes sense.

The subsequent presentation went well in large part because the GU power point consisted almost exclusively of photos from our intergenerational photography contest. It's so true that pictures speak louder than words. Who can resist the sparkle in older and younger eyes when they are captured spontaneously enjoying being together? This fall we will be publishing a booklet that features the first year winners of the contest and the stories behind the pictures. Trust me, they are quite moving. We are thankful that the MetLife Foundation has been so generously supporting this project.

Support for the intergenerational field is growing in the US and abroad. This spring I was honored to be elected to the management team of the new International Consortium of Intergenerational Programs (ICIP). Amy Goyer of AARP is the other American to serve. We are looking forward to representing our colleagues in the US and are committed to helping grow ICIP.

The increasing international interest in intergenerational work is evident not simply through ICIP, but other groups as well. At GU we were honored this summer to have Shqipe Pantina, a Hope Fellowship scholar from Kosova, spend time with us and shadow our work. Shqipe is interested in beginning an organization like GU in Kosova. During her time in Washington she was able to draft an implementation plan that will help her unite the "pensioners" with youth groups that have been developing in the new democracy. This could be a very positive and productive force in a country that has only recently held its first election.

Ghandi said it best, "I must hurry, for I am their leader and there they go . . ." All of us at GU feel honored to work with you and celebrate the progress we are making together.

From the Chair: John Rother

The Board was pleased to honor the late David Liederman in July with the unveiling of our intergenerational agenda to eliminate child poverty. David, who was the head of the Child Welfare League of America, co-founded GU at a time when social welfare advocates were told to choose between children and the elderly. Along with Jack Ossofsky, who was the leader of the National Council on the Aging at the time, David led the effort to reframe the debate around our common stake in cross-generational approaches to improve the lives of all Americans. David believed that the number one issue GU needed to confront was and is poverty. Our two years of shaping the agenda paid off with the introduction of a poster highlighting the agenda at our recent Capitol Hill briefing, "Child Poverty: An Issue for All Generations."

As the Board has watched the progress of the child poverty agenda, we have begun to talk about the evolution of GU as an organization and the most effective role of the board of directors. Board members have three basic functions: provide fiduciary oversight, hire and evaluate the executive director, and set the strategic direction of the organization. We are pleased that GU is on solid financial footing, has committed staff and has grown to the point where much of the board discussion can move beyond the governance function to focusing on in-depth discussions about the organization's future. Our conversations during this next year will focus on GU's unique niche and will take place during ever changing economic and societal conditions.

While we explore these deeper discussions, GU will continue to provide consistent services and information to our members. We are pleased that the Administration on Aging has approved two more years of funding for our National Center on Grandparents and Other Relatives Raising Children. Their support makes it possible to continue our work to provide technical assistance and training to professionals and caregivers about public policies and services available to kinship care families. This fall will also see the release of our shared site monograph and the updated version of one of our more popular publications, Young and Old Serving Together.

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Generations United *Together*

Together celebrates the richness of generations by providing useful information about intergenerational programs and policies through articles that address the mutual well-being of children, youth, adults, and older adults.

Editorial Board Members

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Sandra Brostrom, Graduate Student, Intergenerational Studies Program, University of Findlay, OH
Gladys Hotchkiss, Sr. Affairs Commission of San Bernardino County Aging and Adult Service, CA
Laura Landry-Meyer, Bowling Green State University, School of Family and Consumer Sciences, OH
Bard Lindeman, Syndicated Columnist "In Your Prime," Tribune Media Services, GA
Wini McDuffie, Intergenerational Consultant, Senior Neighbors of Chattanooga, TN
Rolando Pyle, Grandparent Resource Center, NYC Department for the Aging, NY
Bob Rosenblatt, Los Angeles Times, Washington D.C. Correspondent, Washington, D.C.

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Together is published quarterly for members of Generations United.

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Jaia Peterson, Editor
Marcia DeLong, Design & Layout, DeLong Litho

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Child and Aging Organizations Rally Together to End Child Poverty

By Terence Kane
Intern
Generations United

Shay Bilchik, Kris Moore, Bill Novelli and Marian Wright Edelman (left to right) listen to testimony of D.C. Foster Grandparent after speaking to a Capitol Hill audience about intergenerational issues and child poverty.

Showing strong solidarity in front of a packed Senate hearing room, children and aging organizations offered a powerful joint commitment to eliminate child poverty and the harmful effects it has on all generations. The briefing held July 12th and entitled *Child Poverty: An Issue for All Generations* showed once again, the strength of a society that comes together across generational lines. The briefing highlighted Generations United's Child Poverty Agenda and unveiled a poster honoring the late David Liederman, co-founder of GU.

Shay Bichik, president and CEO of the Child Welfare League of America and GU board member, provided the opening remarks. Bilchik opened by emphasizing the pressing importance of tackling child poverty: "As a nation, as a caring community, and as leaders, we all need to step up to the plate and accept responsibility for the well-being of children."

Kris Moore, President of Child Trends, presented an overview of current research on child poverty. Moore indicated that the current findings show that child poverty continues to be a harsh reality for many children in the United States. More encouraging research, however, demonstrated that social programs that are successful in sustaining a long-term increase in a family's income, do in fact help lift children out of poverty.

Foster Grandparent Earl Storm speaks at Capitol Hill briefing about his work tutoring and mentoring children in a Washington D.C. school.

Representing the aging community, AARP's Executive Director Bill Novelli stressed the obligation of all generations to eliminate poverty. Novelli argued that the health of America is dependent on improving the quality of life at every age, "Healthy aging requires an early start. Yet, many children living in poverty too often do not receive or have access to proper health care. That must not continue. Not to address the health needs of children, means that we will be developing a generation of frail elderly."

Following Mr. Novelli, Marian Wright Edelman, President of the Children's Defense Fund unveiled a poster honoring the late David Liederman, co-founder of GU and former CEO of the Child Welfare League of America. In her speech she urged the packed audience to carry on the fight to end poverty. Quoting David Liederman, she stressed the importance of an intergenerational approach, "We aren't going to let anyone tell the American people to choose whether or not they want to help seniors or whether or not they want to help kids. . . the time for rhetoric and service has ended...for the very health and stability of our country is tied inextricably to health and welfare of our children." Edelman outlined GU's Child Poverty Agenda citing four crucial policy issues that ensure that work pays enough to raise a child, families have the basic tools to support work, extended families are able to support children, and existing antipoverty efforts reach everyone they are supposed to reach.

In inspirational testimonial, Earl Storm, a local Foster Grandparent, offered his experience as a mentor in a D.C.

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Across the Globe: Sixty Plus Intergenerational Project in the U.K.

Shirley-Anne Whitley
Intergenerational Project Coordinator
Sixty Plus
London, England

Sixty Plus is a voluntary organisation which aims to support older in people maintaining their independence in the Borough of Kensington and Chelsea in London. Our work is made possible with the help of over 350 volunteers who carry out a range of services including befriending, practical help and health promotion.

Since 1995 our Intergenerational Project has been a key element of our work. The project, which aims to bring younger and older people together to create relationships of mutual benefit, has brought generations together in a range of ways including video and arts projects, outings and events, and even an intergenerational choir. However, the main part of our work has involved supporting over 100 young volunteers to provide a wide range of practical help, which reflects Sixty Plus' overall aim to support independence.

The Intergenerational Computer Project

One of the most popular projects has been the Intergenerational Computer Project which brings a younger volunteer coach together with an older learner who wants to get to grips with computers and technology. Learning takes place in a variety of settings including schools, libraries, community centres, internet cafes, and peoples' homes.

Benefits have been visible for all parties involved. For example one of our members who is housebound took part in the project and is now able to do her own shopping on-line. Another learner is using her new skills to compile her biography. The young volunteers also benefit from taking part. Many talk about increased confidence and public speaking skills as well as having great fun.

The Intergenerational Language Project

The Intergenerational Language Project matches a young volunteer with an older person who wants to learn English as a Second language. The older people involved have stressed the importance of this informal learning which also gives many the only opportunity they get to practice everyday English conversation. The project also gives the younger people the opportunity to learn more about a different culture and the real issues facing the adults with whom they are paired.

While much of the publicity on the intergenerational field involves work that takes place in the U.S., unique intergenerational programs, research and professional literature are growing across the world. Each upcoming issue of Together will feature this new column to highlight an international intergenerational project.

One volunteer who has been meeting with a Kurdish refugee from Iraq said that it has been a privilege to be involved in the project and meet with her learner. She talks of being welcomed as part of the family and being able to share in meals and special cultural events. Hearing about the background of her escape to England gave her an insight into the reality of the personal suffering behind the headlines on the TV.

Why Intergenerational Work?

As well as providing important services and benefits to the individuals, participant in the intergenerational project have reported that it has helped break down barriers and misconceptions, which both generations had held about each other previously. In many cases it has also paved the way to the creation of friendships. However, it would be wrong not to highlight that in some cases people don't get along and yet often this is more a case of personality clash than a clash of generations.

There is also much more that needs to be done and we are constantly seeking to widen and develop the work we do. For example a key issue which many of our older members face is the fear of crime especially related to young people. Work has already begun to address this fear– starting with a video drama project exploring both generations views and attitudes toward crime and safety.

Sixty Plus is also promoting opportunities for older adults to volunteer with younger people. This is also crucial if we are to help break down the misconceptions of older people as dependent and having nothing to offer.

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SixtyPlus_Intergen@hotmail.com

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An Enchanted Evening: An Intergenerational Senior Prom

By Janet Listokin,
CTRS
Assistant Director of Recreation
Isabella Geriatric Center
New York, NY

The month of June is filled with joyous occasions such as confirmations, weddings, graduations and senior proms. Having no age requirements, these events bring joy, hope, and a sense of fulfillment to all those who participate. Then, why not a Senior Prom for residents of a long-term care facility?

In the spirit of June celebrations, the Isabella Geriatric Center of New York embarked upon plans for an Intergenerational Senior Prom in June. As with any prom preparations included distributing invitations (to all 705 residents), arranging beauty parlor appointments, ordering corsages and boutonnieres, conceiving a delectable dinner and contracting live music.

No prom is complete without "dates". Thus, 50 high school students from the Isabella's Health Careers Partnership and Caring Partners programs, under the direction of Rema Sessler, Director of Volunteers, joined the residents of Isabella Geriatric Center as "dates" for the evening. These were not "blind dates" since during the past academic year, the students had successfully established friendships with the residents.

Under a tented ceiling constructed from foil streamers and to the music of the Skip Martin 14 piece swing band, the Intergenerational Senior Prom went beyond anyone's expectation. One hundred fifty residents, bedecked in their finest, swayed, danced, laughed, and glowed throughout the evening. One resident, who often chooses not to attend group activities exclaimed, "With all these pretty young girls here, I feel young again!"

Intergenerational Prom Volunteer with Ralph Stevenson.

From the moment they picked up their dates and presented them with their corsage to the moment they brought them home (bearing in mind curfew), the young "dates" were giving, solicitous and engaging. Sharing life experiences, the students learned from the seniors and the seniors learned from the students as they danced, smiled, and hugged throughout the evening.

To assist with the serving of the dinner, teenage volunteers from the St. Sammual Cathedral Church of God in Christ volunteered for the evening. Dressed as waitresses, they too were able to interact with the residents and gain appreciation for seniors.

At the close of the evening, it was apparent no one wanted the magic to end. When told to wrap it up, Allen Hill, the bandleader, said, "Must we? We're just getting started. It's great watching everyone having such a good time!" When one resident was being escorted out of the hall to her room, she protested and said: "I don't want to leave!" Participants exchanged good nights, wiped away tears and reassured, "I'll come back to visit you soon."

Shirley Mackins, Sam Elfatrany, and Jacqueline Armstrongj (left to right).

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Homes for Grandfamilies: Barriers and Solutions

By Cara Goldstein
Technical Assistance Coordinator
National Center on Grandparents & Other Relatives Raising Children

Joanne began caring for her 9 year-old grandson in December after he was removed from her daughter's home by the Department of Human Services as a result of abuse by her boyfriend. Her grandson who has severe behavioral and mental health problems is progressing well in her care, but their housing situation is in jeopardy. Joanne lives in a residence for seniors where children are not allowed. Her landlord has advised that she and her grandson seek other living arrangements, or they may face eviction. Joanne does not have the financial resources for another residence. Without proper housing and no other alternatives, Joanne's grandson would be placed in foster care.

Stories like these are all too common among the 2.4 million grandparents raising grandchildren in the U.S. today. Aside from facing the potential devastating impacts that raising one's grandchildren may have on financial resources, mental and physical health as well as one's social life, many grandparents and other relatives raising children struggle to find affordable housing that will accommodate their new family.

For grandparents who reside in public housing, the addition of grandchildren may lead to eviction. As in the case of Joanne, certain public housing units are set-aside for older individuals and those with disabilities. Generally, children are not permitted in these complexes and it is a violation of the lease to let them live there. Similarly, moving grandchildren into a public housing unit may violate occupancy limits, and in some areas it may not be possible to add a grandchild to a lease without obtaining legal custody.

Fortunately at least 12 cities nationwide have already identified this challenge and are in various stages of developing or implementing GrandFamilies Housing Projects. This unique housing opportunity is being developed to meet the needs of aging caregivers and the children they are raising. Three examples of the innovative housing developments are located in Boston, Massachusetts; Buffalo, New York; and Cleveland, Ohio.

The nation's first housing program specially designed for grandparent-headed families, GrandFamilies House in Boston, Massachusetts, was opened in August 1998. Two local non-profit organizations developed the project by using a mix of public and private financing. The House is comprised of 26 two, three and four bedroom apartments that have safety features including grab bars in the bathrooms and electrical outlet covers, in addition to extensive communal program space. In addition, the House offers supportive services for the families, which include an on-site resident services coordinator, a live-in house manager, educational services, and assistance with accessing outside services.

Grandfamilies House, Boston MA.

Buffalo, New York is home to the second fully functioning housing development for grandparent-headed families. There are two programs currently available for grandparents raising their grandchildren, both administered through the Buffalo Municipal Housing Authority. The first, called Lakeview, is part of a project to rebuild public housing. Lakeview contains 10 units for these families and offers case management services. The other program is included in a housing complex for seniors and families. In this complex there are currently 6 "granny units," some of which are single level and handicap adaptable.

The Fairhill Center for Aging, in Cleveland, Ohio, is currently in the process of planning to renovate a large building on its campus grounds to be called "Kinship Village". The housing complex will include 12 apartment units of market-rate and low-income housing for grandparents or other relative caregivers who are raising infants or toddlers. The Village will be located in close proximity to supportive services for these families.

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Intergenerational Public Policy Update

LEGACY Act Introduced in the Senate

On June 5th Senators Mary Landrieu (D-LA), Mike Dewine (R-OH), and Debbie Stabenow (D-MI) introduced S.2592 a companion bill to the LEGACY act introduced in the House in March. These similar bills will help provide housing to grandparents and other relatives raising children by creating demonstration projects based on Grandfamilies, a successful housing facility in Boston designed specifically for grandparents raising children. The bills also: call for a study of the housing needs of grandparents and other relative caregivers across the country; clarify that grandparents raising children should qualify for family unification housing assistance; provide training for frontline housing workers on issues specific to these caregivers; and provide assistance to low-income homeowners to build additional bedrooms onto their homes to accommodate the grandchildren they are raising.

With few days left in the legislative calendar and competing legislative priorities, Representative Capuano and other LEGACY co-sponsors have pursued additional avenues for passing provisions of the LEGACY bill in the house. As a result of their efforts, several of the LEGACY provisions have been included in H.R. 3995, the omnibus housing bill which has passed the House Financial Services committee and, at time of printing, is waiting to come to the floor for a vote. The bill has bi-partisan support and is expected to pass this session.

The practice and procedures on the Senate side are far more flexible than those of the house and it is common practice to consider non-controversial matters, such as minor legislation, by unanimous consent. Senate co-sponsors of LEGACY are seeking additional support for the bill with hopes of passing it by unanimous consent. This would help to circumvent many cumbersome rules and move the legislation through more quickly. This may only be done, however, by securing additional support for the bill. Senate sponsors are also likely to consider attaching provisions from the bill to other major housing legislation that moves through the Senate this fall.

Generations United has met with many Senators and Representatives who are interested in the legislation but want to hear from their constituents. If you support legislation to help provide housing to grandparents and other relative, call your senators and representative and ask them to support the Legacy Bill, H.R. 4033 in the House or S.2592 in the Senate.

Corporation for National and Community Service

After the president's State of the Union address which included a call to all Americans to commit to at least two years of service over their lifetime, Congress introduced the Citizen Service Act of 2002. This bill H.R. 4854, which would reauthorize the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS), was introduced on the House side with bipartisan support. CNCS is the umbrella organization for Senior Corps, AmeriCorps and Learn and Serve. It funds and guides well-established, effective intergenerational programs such as the Foster Grandparent and Retired Senior Volunteer Programs (RSVP). Thanks to messages from GU members and other grassroots voices, the legislation includes much needed changes to help expand the pool of volunteers by lowering the age requirement from 60 to 55 and raising the income requirement from 125% to 200% of poverty.

A Senate bill based on the House version is expected to be introduced this fall. While the House bill has bi-partisan support, limited time on the legislative calendar and competing priorities could delay the bills consideration. If you support CNCS, contact your Senators and Representative and tell them to make legislation to reauthorize the Corporation for National and Community Service a priority.

Lifespan Respite Care Act of 2002

On May 9th Senators Hillary Rodham Clinton (D-NY), Olympia Snow (R-ME), Barbara Mikulski (D-MD) and John Breaux (D-LA) introduced the Lifespan Respite Care Act of 2002, S. 2489. The bill is designed to develop a coordinated system of accessible, community-based respite care services for all caregivers of individuals regardless of the individual's age, race, ethnicity or special need. The legislation would help provide needed temporary relief for grandparents and other relatives raising children regardless of their age. A

House companion bill was introduced on June 26th by Representatives Jim Langevin,(D-RI), Jim Greenwood (R-PA), Robert Brady (D-PA), Bill Pascrell (D-NJ), and Connie Morella (R-MD) and an additional 35 co-sponsors. If you support a coordinated system of respite care at the state and local levels, contact your senators and representative and ask them to co-sponsor the Lifespan Respite Care Act of 2002.

Social Services Block Grant

The Social Services Block Grant (SSBG) provides flexible funding to the states that can be adapted to meet the unique needs of each community. The funding is commonly used to provide services to people of all ages such as child and adult protective services, meals on wheels and services to people with disabilities. Over the last several years funding SSBG has been cut by over $1 billion. GU is working with a coalition of organizations to restore funding to this program to $2.8 billion. Through the coalition's collective efforts, provisions to increase funding for SSBG have been included in the CARE Act (a bill addressing faith-based initiatives) and a bill to reauthorize Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF). But these provisions will only pass if constituents let members of Congress know they are important. Senators and Representatives need to hear from constituents to make restoration of SSBG a priority. If you support increased funding to provide needed social services to people of all ages, contact your senators and representative and ask them to restore SSBG to $2.8 billion.

For up-to-date information on this and other legislation relevent to intergenerational programs visit the legislative alert section of the gu web site at www.gu.org.

Unity in the Spirit of America: Volunteer-Remembering, Responding, and Rebuilding

The USA initiative offers Americans the opportunity to REMEMBER those lost on September 11th and to RESPOND to the tragedy in a uniquely American way – by volunteering to REBUILD communities in the memory of those who lost their lives on that day. The USA initiative fosters connections between volunteers and families who lost loved ones on September 11 through dedicated volunteer projects that will have lasting impact in communities for many years to come. Anyone interested in honoring those lost by volunteering in their community is eligible to participate in the USA initiative; from young people to seniors; small nonprofit organizations to multi-national corporations; individuals to government agencies.

Signed into law by President Bush on January 10, 2002, the USA initiative urges Americans to conduct volunteer projects in their communities as "living memorials" to those lost on September 11. "People have been asking what they can do for our family. Now I can ask them to volunteer to make things better in their communities in my husband's memory," said Joan Scheffold, widow of Fred Scheffold, Battalion Chief, Fire Department, City of New York.

The Points of Light Foundation and its national network of nearly 500 Volunteer Centers will oversee the initiative. To register a volunteer project, visit the official USA initiative Web site at www.USA.PointsofLight.org. Send direct information requests or specific questions about the USA initiative to unity@PointsofLight.org or call 1-800-VOLUNTEER.

SIGN UP TO RECEIVE LEGISLATIVE ALERTS

If you would like to receive timely legislative updates and alerts about what you can do to help pass intergenerational legislation, please contact Jaia Peterson by emailing jpeterson@gu.org or calling 202-638-1263.

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Interview with Janet Sainer, "Grandmother" of RSVP

By Maggie Biscarr,
Assistant Director
National Center on
Grandparents and Other
Relatives Raising Children

Janet Sainer (right) with Maggie Biscarr

If you work in the field of aging or on relative caregiver issues, you have probably heard the name Janet Sainer. You might have even seen her at conferences, ducking in and out of sessions, networking over coffee during the breaks. She is the small, white-haired woman with the great outfits and lovely smile. Small in stature maybe, but this woman lends new meaning to the phrase "small but mighty." A Special Consultant for the Brookdale Foundation who is currently well known for her dedication to supporting grandparents and other relatives raising children, Janet can also be described as a leader, a forerunner, and certainly a visionary.

I have had the honor to partner with Janet on a variety of projects over the last several years. Always amazing to me is Janet's passion and commitment to every project and issue we discuss. I have been on panels with Janet and have heard her introduced countless times. Each time she is introduced, I learn something new and am further astounded at how one person could have accomplished so much. Recently I asked if she would take the time to talk to me a little bit about her career and how she got to be where she is today. She graciously agreed and for that I thank her. The following is based on our discussion.

Mrs. Janet Sainer, already a committed wife and mother of three, has been involved in the field of aging since in the early 1950s. Throughout her career, she has proposed numerous innovative concepts and ideas and helped to turn them into full-fledged and funded programs, many of which still exist today. With a BA from Hunter College in New York and an MSW from Case Western Reserve in Cleveland, Ohio, Janet began her career working part-time for two synagogues in New York City. It was in this position that she developed her first program, a one-day-a-week program for seniors, which she led for 10 years.

Janet's second job was at Community Service Society of New York, where she remained for 14 years. It was there that she took up the issue of utilizing seniors as resources, based on her hypothesis that many seniors would volunteer to do valuable service if given the opportunity. With the support of Community Services Society and private foundations, Janet developed a program called SERVE, which stands for Serve and Enrich Retirement by Volunteer Experience. Recruiting volunteers for her program from nearby senior centers on Statten Island, NY, Janet began pairing the seniors with patients at a large institution for mentally retarded called Willowbrook.

Over time, hundreds of seniors began volunteering regularly through SERVE. Janet worked with researchers to conduct a study of the program, the results of which can be found in her book entitled "SERVE." Tirelessly, Janet testified before Congress to get funding for paid staff to develop volunteer programs. Finally, after two years of testimony, the Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) was born. Janet is often referred to as the grandmother of RSVP, which now exists in over 700 sites across the U.S. She is also a real grandma to her three grandchildren.

A modest woman, Janet does not like to boast but there is no doubt that during her years at the Community Services Society she was making quite a name for herself. For when Ed Koch was elected Mayor of New York City, it was Janet Sainer he chose to appoint to serve as Commissioner of the New York City Department for the Aging. Janet accepted the position, and held it from 1978-1990 - the entire 12 years that Koch remained in office. During her tenure as New York City Commissioner on Aging, Janet was responsible for starting and expanding many critical programs and services for seniors.

As Commissioner, Janet established the New York City Alzheimer's Resource Center, the first municipal center in the nation to provide free counseling and referral services for Alzheimer's Disease patients and families, and initiated the

annual Mayoral Conference on Alzheimer's Disease, which continues to this day. A forward thinker, Janet created new linkages among the public, private, and voluntary sectors through the nationally known Citymeals-on-Wheels program, which provides additional meals for the elderly homebound on weekends and holidays. In addition, she developed the Stay-Well health promotion program, minority enhancement services, and a number of intergenerational programs.

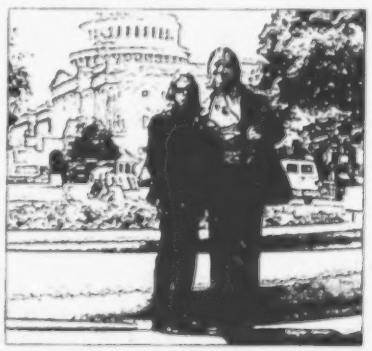
Janet's relationship with the Brookdale Foundation began during her years with the City. Brookdale was one of the funders of a number of her public/private sector initiatives. As soon as Mayor Koch's administration left office, Brookdale asked Janet to become a Special Consultant to the Foundation. In her current role at Brookdale, she focuses primarily on the issue of grandparents and other relatives raising children through the Relatives As Parents Program (RAPP) and on the Brookdale National Group Respite program for Alzheimer's families.

Generations United has had the good fortune of partnering with Brookdale and Janet since the mid-nineties, when the issue of grandparents and other relatives raising children began to gain national attention. Through the years, Brookdale has worked very closely with GU staff on the development of several major initiatives, such as the Mental Health/RAPP and KinNET projects. As a Special Consultant for Brookdale, Janet's guidance and vision have played an important role in the development of both of these mini-grant projects. To the staff at GU, Janet has become more than just a partner, although she has certainly been an extraordinary one. She and her husband of 61 years, Herman Sainer, have become wonderful friends and part of the GU family.

In closing our interview I asked Janet if there was a message that she would like to impart to the youth of today and to future generations. Without hesitation, she noted that: As the older population continues to increase, there should be increasing recognition of what they have to offer and the roles mature people can play in the lives of younger people and in society in general. Janet hopes that the image of aging will continue to evolve in a more positive way and that older and younger people will remember to give each other the respect they each deserve. As a staff member of Generations United, I could not have scripted a more appropriate response. But then I remembered... I was interviewing Janet Sainer, a pioneer in the field of intergenerational programming. It was truly an honor. From all of us at GU, thank you Janet for years of leadership, guidance, and friendship.

Fellow from Pristina plans Generations United in Kosova

GU was honored this summer to have Shqipe Pantina, a Hope Fellowship Program fellow, spend time with us. Shqipe lives in Pristina and is interested in starting an organization like GU in Kosova. She was selected as one of nine outstanding women leaders to participate in the program, which is sponsored by the US Agency for International Development and administered by the National Albanian American Council. Shqipe's research sites were Verizon Communications and Generations United. We look forward to staying in touch with Shqipe and supporting her efforts to unite generations in Kosova.



Shqipe Pantina (left) and Jaia Peterson (right) on their way to a visit with Congressional staff

Do you work with an intergenerational shared site program? Does your program serve children, youth, and older adults in the same building or campus?
If the answer is YES, then we are looking for you.
GU is compiling profiles on model intergenerational shared site programs. Please contact Sheri Steinig at 202-638-1263 for more information.

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Congratulations Legacy Mini-grants Recipients!

Congratulations to the recipients of the Legacy project mini-grants! Projects planned in 10 communities across the country in the next several months will feature the Academy-Award nominated documentary film, Legacy, as a springboard for discussion and legislative advocacy events that highlight issues affecting grandparents raising children today. The film, which features a strong grandmother who helps to raise her grandchildren in inner city Chicago, highlights the multitude of issues affecting grandparents raising children.

Buffalo District Christian Education Department of the African Methodist Episcopal Zion
Buffalo, NY

California State University, Fresno Gerontology Program
Fresno, CA

Lincoln Child Center Kinship Support Services Program
Hayward, CA

Social Development Department, New Haven Public Schools
New Haven, CT

Martin Luther King, Jr. Multi-Service Center
Indianapolis, IN

Community Center for Vital Aging (CCVA)
Muncie, IN

DC Metropolitan Foster and Adoptive Parent Association
Cheverly, MD

Families and Children Together
Bangor, ME

Michigan State University Kinship Care Resource Center
Lansing, MI

The Synergy Groups of the Niagara Frontier, Inc.
East Amherst, NY

GU thanks Outreach Extensions for their support and coordination of the Legacy effort. The campaign is also generously supported by grants from The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation and The Annie E. Casey Foundation. For more information on these and other mini-grant opportunities stay tuned to the Generations United website at www.gu.org.

GU Welcomes New Staff

Terence Kane

Terence Kane joined Generation United as an intern for the summer through the 2002 Washington Internship on Social Insurance hosted by the National Academy of Social Insurance. Terence spent time assisting with GU's public policy agenda by helping with GU's Child Poverty Briefing and LEGACY housing bill. He also attended and reported on other relevant Capitol Hill briefings, helped to coordinate GU's Public Policy Committee meetings, and contributed articles to the newsletter.

Terence is a sophomore at The George Washington University and is majoring in political science and minoring in philosophy and sociology. Before coming to GU, Terence was active in his hometown of Salisbury, Maryland where he helped form and chair The Youth Foundation Fund, a philanthropic group that gives grants to youth based community organizations through an endowment fund run by young people. Terence has also been active in local politics in support of education and strong neighborhoods. Terence hopes to build on his experience from GU to pursue a career in public service.

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On the Road

GU continues to promote the intergenerational message through presentations, workshops and speeches throughout the country. Information about upcoming events is listed below.

September

24

Maryland Intergenerational Coalition Symposium, "Getting Started-The Nuts and Bolts of Intergenerational Programs." Baltimore, MD, Jaia Peterson

6-7

Evangelical Lutheran Church of America, "Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Consultation", St. Louis, MO *

12

Piedmont Triad Council of Governments Area Agency on Aging, "Addressing the Needs of Grandparents Raising Grandchildren in Your Community," Burlington, NC *

24

Take Note Live, Penn State Public Broadcasting, "Grandparents Raising Grandchildren," Donna Butts

October

12-14

National Alliance for Caregiving's International Conference, "The National Family Caregiver Support Program and Projects of National Significance," and "Supporting Grandparents and Other Relatives Caring for Children Through Public Policy and Programs," Washington, DC, Ana Beltran, Maggie Biscarr

18

Senior Affairs Commission Intergenerational Conference, San Bernardino County, CA, "Intergenerational Approaches: Purpose, Passion and Potential," Opening Keynote, Donna Butts

28-31

American Association of Homes and Services for the Aging Annual Meeting and Exposition, "Intergenerational Shared Sites: Enhancing Services, Building Community Support, and Connecting Generations," Baltimore, MD, Sheri Steinig, Jaia Peterson

November

2

Grandmother' Circle Conference, "Who We Are As Grandmothers", Westport, CT,*

The Second Annual Rochester Kinship Care Conference, Keynote, Rochester, NY*

* Denotes speakers are expert trainers deployed by GU's National Center on Grandparents and Other Relatives Raising Children

If you would like to schedule someone from Generations United to address your conference or event, call 202-638-1263 or email gu@gu.org

Generations United Mission

To foster intergenerational collaboration on public policy and programs to improve the lives of children, youth and the elderly.

Vision:

A society that values all generations.

Core Beliefs:

We believe the time has come for advocates for children, youth and older persons to work together to build and support a common agenda. Each generation has unique strengths to help meet the need of another. Efforts to create more decent societies rest on the interdependence of generations – past, living, and still to come. Further we believe:

- *Intergenerational collaboration will unite and improve our communities*
- *Every person, younger and older, is a resource and adds value*
- *Public policy should meet the needs of all generations*
- *Resources are more wisely used when they connect the generations rather than separate them*
- *Discrimination in any form limits a person's potential to contribute to the development of their community*
- *Grandparents and other relatives who step forward to raise children are providing an invaluable service to their families and our country.*

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Making it Hard to Heal: Barriers for Older Adult Medical Volunteers

By Terence Kane
Intern
Generations United

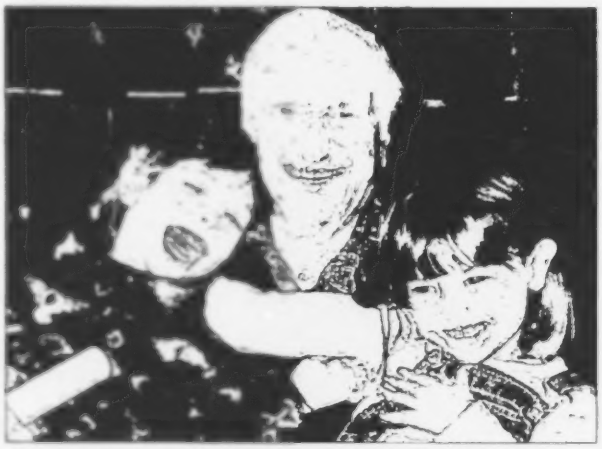

Photo by Barbara Friedman

Retirement in the 21st century will undoubtedly transform into a time of activism and volunteerism for many older Americans. AARP's president, Jim Parkel is convinced that the old definition of retirement is out of date. "The old connotation of retirement is, you worked, you retired, you played golf and took cruises". Parkel adds, "I don't think our members are doing that, number one. And number two, if they volunteer and get involved in life and do new exciting things, that's not retirement".

Thanks to programs like the Corporation for National and Community Service and other growing volunteer programs, seniors have a plethora of opportunities available to them as they address their changing roles as well as enabling them to participate more fully in society. Many of these seniors are choosing to volunteer their experience and help enrich the lives of Americans. Older volunteers who dedicate their time to helping young people have the ability to give an especially positive contribution to society. When older Americans volunteer with young people both generations benefit through the interaction, creating new friendships and providing increased understanding.

Unfortunately, some barriers persist that prevent seniors from volunteering their skills. Medical professionals have the ability to provide a truly invaluable service by offering health care to the country's 41 million uninsured. However, due to concern of civil liability medical professionals are often restricted in the extent they can volunteer.

Leading the charge of retired medical professionals is Dr. Jack McConnell, who refused to become content with a lifetime of achievements in medicine and started the Volunteers in Medicine Clinic in Hilton Head South Carolina. Dr. McConnell, who earlier directed the development of Tylenol tablets, decided to leave the confines of his gated retirement community and rededicate himself to helping the roughly 10,000 Hilton Head residents living in near poverty with out access to medical care. The Volunteers in Medicine Clinic now handles 16,000 visits a year with the help of over three hundred volunteers. None of this would have been possible with out the help of the South Carolina legislature to create a special license for doctors who volunteer and special insurance coverage for everyone at the clinic at only $5,000 a year.

Building on Dr. McConnell's legislative efforts, The American Association of Orthopaedic Surgeons (AAOS) has drafted model legislation to provide volunteer medical professionals with civil immunity. According to *American Medical News*, New York and Connecticut both have proposed legislation introduced this year, placing them in a list of a growing number of states that have attempted to give protections to volunteering physicians. Laws encouraging volunteerism through protective legislation differ greatly from state to state. For example, Arizona, Indiana, Maryland, South Carolina, and Virginia are states that have passed complete immunity protection. Others have no protective legislation whatsoever such as, Alaska, California, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Nebraska, New Mexico, New York, and Vermont.

Due to concern over patients' rights and safety, several states have been cautious in adopting legislation. In response, several safe guards are included in the AAOS' model legislation to protect patients' rights by removing liability protection if the volunteering physician failed to act in good faith, operated outside of their license, or engaged in gross negligence.

To learn more about what you can do in your state to encourage volunteering visit these web sites:
http://www.ama-assn.org/sci-pubs/amnews/pick_01/prl21112.htm
http://www.aarp.org/bulletin/departments/2002/news/0505_news_1.html
http://www.aaos.org/wordhtml/bulletin/apr00/states.htm
http://63.141.36.80/volunteer/model_bill.doc
http://www.vimclinic.org/index.htm

New Trends in Caregiving: KinNET Orientation Teaches New Ways to Meet Caregiver Challenges

By Cara Goldstein
Technical Assistance Coordinator
National Center on Grandparents and Other Relatives Raising Children

This year's KinNET orientation and training was held in June in conjunction with the Brookdale Annual Relatives As Parents Program (RAPP) Conference in Arlington, VA. The conference, which drew over 100 participants, featured and opening plenary, "New Trends in Caregiving: Meeting the Challenges of Serving Relative Caregivers," with presenters Ana Beltran, Director, GU's National Center, and Mary Bissell, Senior Staff Attorney, Children's Defense Fund. The speakers addressed ways in which service providers can effectively help kinship care families through statewide networks and broad educational efforts. The topics of subsequent sessions ranged from ways to improve caregiver recruitment and retention to developing community partnerships and examining legal issues. Throughout the sessions, innovative programs and successful state models were used as examples for new KinNET sites to replicate.

Among the highlights of the conference was a Plenary Panel on "The National Family Caregiver Support Program – Implementation and Practice by State and Local Programs" which featured Rick Greene, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, AoA, Barbara Schwartz, Illinois Department on Aging, Bonnie Graham, Michigan Office of Services to the Aging, and Judith Donnelly, Jackson County Department on Aging. Each member of the panel addressed the five categories of supportive services offered through the NFCSP, 1) information, 2) assistance, 3) individual counseling, organization of support groups and training caregivers, 4) respite care, and 5) supplemental services. The speakers involved the audience by urging service providers to share best practices and ideas for beneficial collaborative partnerships. One limitation of the NFCSP that was discussed involved the exclusion of dependents age 19 and up and caregivers under age 60 that are caring for grandchildren.

After a weekend of voicing their collective concerns and receiving seasoned advice, KinNET sites departed the conference with a renewed sense of how to ensure continuity and expansion in their programs through the use of funding as well as other supportive resources.

To obtain materials from this conference or for information about upcoming GU trainings and events, call 202-638-1263, or email gu@gu.org.

HOMES FOR GRANDFAMILIES, *continued from page 9*

Although these small community-based interventions are promising initiatives, the housing needs of families headed by grandparents and other relatives must also be addressed on a national level. Last spring, major federal housing legislation, the LEGACY bill (H.R. 4033, S. 2592) was introduced for the first time to support grandparents and other relatives raising children.

LEGACY would create national demonstration projects that provide opportunities within HUD's Section 202 and Section 8 programs to develop housing specifically for grandparents and other relatives raising children. It would provide training and education for front line workers about specific issues related to these families. LEGACY will also clarify that grandparents raising children qualify for the Section 8 Family Unification Program. Lastly, it would provide assistance to grandparents, who own and live in small homes, to build additional bedrooms to accommodate grandchildren who have unexpectedly come into their care.

If enacted, the LEGACY bill would address multiple housing related problems faced by grandparent caregivers and their families. However, the fate of this legislation will be dependent on grandparent advocates themselves and their ability to educate policy-makers about existing regulations that impact these families and how regulations can be interpreted to support them rather than prevent their efforts to maintain families.

For more information read the Intergenerational Public Policy Update in this issue, contact Generations United at 202-638-1263, or visit www.gu.org.

Winners Chosen for the Second Generations United/MetLife Foundation Intergenerational Photography Contest

By Sheri Steinig
Program Director

Congratulations to the winners of our second Intergenerational Photography Contest, which was sponsored by the MetLife Foundation as part of their Healthy Aging Initiative. A panel of judges, consisting of GU members and staff had the very difficult task of selecting the winners. Prizes have been awarded to First, Second, and Third place winners, and honorable mentions were given in several categories.

Grand Prize by Mary Beth Burkholder

The **Grand Prize Winner** is Mary Beth Burkholder, age 51, from the Friends Pre-School in Yellow Springs, Ohio. Her picture is of Chelsea and Kaila, two students from the pre-school, who ran to hug Hazel, their special friend at the Friends Care Center nursing home, which houses the pre-school. **Second Prize** was awarded to Marilyn Probe, age 71, from Elders Probe the Arts, Inc. in St. Louis, Missouri. Her picture is of third grader Carlos mirroring his older friend James' movements prior to writing his own poem and serving as scribe for James' poem. Taking **Third Prize** is Joan Lawrence, age 71, from Galena, Ohio. Her picture is of her three-year-old grandson Jack and her husband concentrating hard to make the old toys work. Jack's first stop when visiting his grandparents' home is the attic where they store not only their children's old toys but also their own toys from the 1930s.

Second Prize by Marilyn Probe

Honorable Mentions were given in several categories. Twenty-year old Tatyana Janczura of Little Brothers Friends of the Elderly in Chicago, Illinois captured **Celebration of Diversity.** Her picture is of Lloyd and Ida, who not only share big brown eyes and a smile of content, but also a very special friendship. **Emotional Expression** went to J. Larry Golfer, age 52, of Falls Church, Virginia. The photo shows a family visit in the garden at her nursing home residence, where great grandma is touched by the offer of handpicked flowers brought to her by her great granddaughter. **Humorous Situation** went to Sheila Malkind, age 63, of Silver Images Film Festival in Chicago, Illinois. Her picture is of a spontaneous moment between her daughter and the grandmother she adores. Cleone Mocik, age 52, from Friendship Center Intergenerational Child Care at the Heath Village Retirement Community in Hackettstown, New Jersey took the picture representing **Intergenerational Activity Portrayed**. Her picture is of a little girl and an older man working together during Woodshop Class at the Friendship Intergenerational Child Care Center, which is located on the campus of Heath Village Retirement Community.

GU would like to thank the MetLife Foundation and

Third Prize by Joan Lawrence

Honorable Mention: Celebration of Diversity by Tatyana Janczura

extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who submitted photographs to our contest. Out of the 44 wonderful entries, it was very difficult to select only a handful as winners. However, the photographs that were not selected as winners will be used in future GU publications and exhibits. They all beautifully represented intergenerational relationships.

A very special thank you also goes to our volunteers who served as judges for the contest. They took on the very difficult task of selecting winners from an outstanding field of entries with a critical eye and a kind heart.

Honorable Mention: Emotional Expression by J. Larry Golfer

Honorable Mention: Humorous Situation by Sheila Malkind

Honorable Mention: Intergenerational Activity Portrayed by Cleone Mocik

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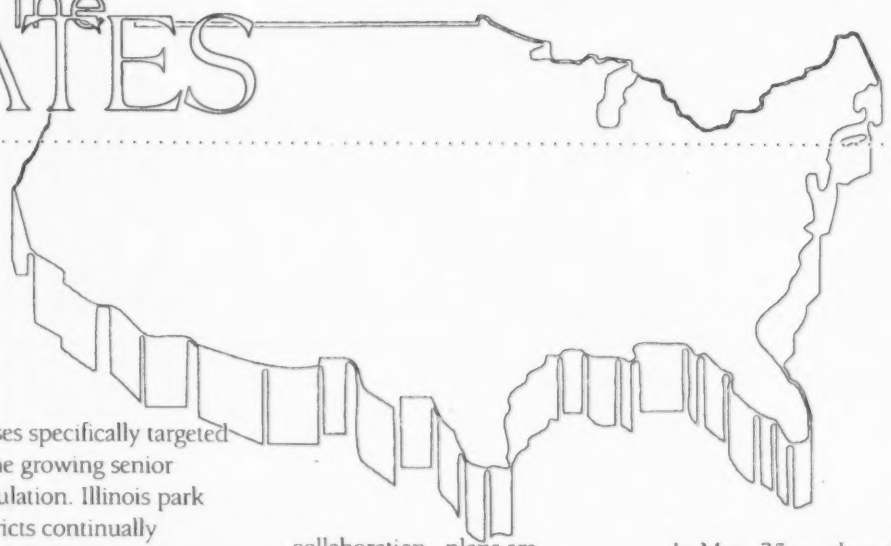
News from the STATES



ILLINOIS

Illinois Department on Aging and Illinois Association of Park Districts Join to Promote Intergenerational Activities

The Illinois Department on Aging and the Illinois Association of Park Districts expanded their long history of partnership activities in the spring by joining forces to promote Intergenerational Week 2002.

During the week of May 19-25, 2002, various intergenerational events were sponsored throughout Illinois by park districts and local senior groups.

"The majority of seniors in Illinois are extremely active and love to participate in recreational and leisure time activities," said Margo E. Schreiber, Director of the Illinois Department on Aging. "Intergenerational activities are important to the development of children and the quality of life of seniors. We are proud that the Illinois Association of Park Districts is helping to foster these opportunities."

According to Ted Flickinger, Ph.D., Executive Director of the Illinois Association of Park Districts, "Illinois park districts have been in the national forefront in offering a large array of activities and instructional classes specifically targeted to the growing senior population. Illinois park districts continually research the recreational and leisure needs of seniors in order to develop quality programs and activities."

During Intergenerational Week, over twenty park districts promoted a variety of activities that brought generations together. Intergenerational activities included the planting of flowers at local parks; chess, ping pong and pool tournaments; intergenerational fun walks; a quilting class with seniors and students from a special needs school; a trip to a local museum; and a special presentation of "The Music Man" presented by a local elementary school.

The Illinois Department on Aging provided each participating park district with a copy of the Governor's Intergenerational Week Proclamation and certificates of participation. It is estimated that over 500 individuals participated in the various events. Due to the success of this collaboration, plans are underway to pursue future intergenerational initiatives with Illinois park districts.

For more information, call the Illinois Department on Aging's Senior helpline at 800-252-8966 (Voice and TTY).

KANSAS

Nurturing the Green Thumb: Adult Volunteers Help Youth Learn Gardening Skills

In May, 35 youth and adults gathered at the Haven Center in Kansas City to put their green thumbs to work. Together, the volunteers helped to plant a 15-foot by 36-foot vegetable garden. The garden will be used in the Haven Center's youth program to teach young people responsibility and business skills.

The project was the

Volunteers Pam Edvalds and Solomon Campbell water freshly planted peppers at the Haven Center.

result of a partnership between the Haven Center and the Volunteer Center of the United Way of Wyandotte County in honor of Intergenerational Week 2002, an event dedicated to increasing interaction between youth and adults. In addition to uniting generations for a common purpose, the project delivered the five fundamental resources that have been identified by Kansas City's Promise as things every young person needs in order to be healthy and successful: caring adults, safe places, a healthy start, marketable skills and an opportunity to give back through service.

"It was a great success," said Lori Smith, Director of the Volunteer Center's Retired and Senior Volunteer Program. "The adult volunteers served as role models and the youth had a wonderful time. It was really a demonstration of what can happen when youth and adults work together to better their community."

In addition to building the garden, the volunteers received gardening tips from Master Gardener Lloyd Fugate. Fugate explained the growth cycles of the various vegetables that were planted, and instructed the volunteers on weeding and watering.

Wal-Mart, Strasser True Value Hardware and other supporters of the Haven Center contributed to the project by donating plants, tools, mulch and wire.

"We planted more than vegetables, we planted hope for the kids," said Smith. "We're excited to see how the garden develops."

For more information contact Jennifer Dungca at 913-371-3674 or email jdungca@unitedway-wyco.org

MARYLAND

Barbara Newland has been named Executive Director of Interages, a nonprofit intergenerational organization founded in 1986 to provide innovative programs between senior adults and school-age children.

"We are very excited to have found someone like Barbara with such a breadth of skills and experience to lead Interages to its next level," stated Elaine Lessenco, President of the Interages Board of Directors. "Barbara is passionate about living a life of service, and we look forward to a long and rewarding partnership with her."

Newland has been Chief of Marketing and Membership for FIATECH, a research consortium supporting the capital projects industry. Prior to that she gained a wealth of experience in her work, which ranged from leading Newland Management Consulting Services to positions with the National Geographic Society and the Peace Corps. In addition to her professional experience, Newland has been a longtime volunteer in Montgomery County and has serviced on boards of several human service organizations.

For more information contact Interages at 301-949-3551 or visit www.interages.com

WASHINGTON

Cyber Seniors: Generations Link in Washington State

Last Summer Ellensburg, WA resident, Ted Ullman started a program at Central Washington University that paired curious seniors with a variety of students who taught their elders to use the Internet. It was a match made in heaven.

Inspired by its success, Ullman has since developed a similar program he calls Generation Link and introduced it to the Ellensburg Senior Center. He hopes to put the program into other senior centers throughout Washington state. The new program has a multi-generational effect that is two-fold: A friendship is made while learning computer basics and seniors become more "comfortable" using state-of-the-art technology.

At first, those who entered the program were pretty intimidated by the glaring machines, Ullman said. Considering most had never so much as turned on a computer before, the idea of using one seemed a little daunting. That is until the students, who seem to have been born knowing computers inside and out, explain how very simple they are to operate. That's when the magic begins.

Slowly at first, each senior progresses at his or her own pace. Perhaps the most popular attraction is surfing the Internet or e-mailing family members. A point and click of the mouse, once foreign and scary, and it's off to the information superhighway.

"They really want to learn to e-mail, surf the Net, shop and research medical news," Ullman said. "I have some who are in their 80s who have never touched a mouse. We start them off playing solitaire so they get used to the mouse.

And the kids are so patient in teaching them. The main thing is making a connection between the kids and the seniors."

Roberta Potter, 73, said she had been using her own computer for about a year but felt very frustrated by the different error messages she would receive. She heard of the class, ponied up $20 and was last seen setting up her own e-mail account with the help of Simone Rikustad.

Patient and kind, Rikustad, a home-schooled student, slowly walked Potter through the e-mail set up and explained some of the finer nuances of the Internet, like how to avoid junk mail and how to find what it is she was really looking for.

continued on page 31

In the Media

Generations United has been in the media bringing greater visibility to intergenerational issues. Recently Generations United was in the following newspapers, television or radio programs:

May 14th
Washington Post. "Mixing with care: intergenerational programs offer lessons for all ages," Donna Butts comments on the advantages of shared site programs.

May 15th
Tallahassee Democrat, FL. "Grandparents raising their grandchildren deserve our help," Op Ed by Donna Butts, describing the importance of providing support to grandparent and other relatives raising children.

Virgin Islands Daily News, St. Croix, Virgin Island. "Grandparents who raise their grandchildren could use our help," Op Ed by Donna Butts.

OshKosh NorthWestern, OshKosh, WI. "Grandparents who raise grandchildren need our help," Op Ed by Donna Butts.

May 18th
Vindicator, Youngstown, OH. "Caring grandparents need our help," Op Ed by Donna Butts.

May 19th
Beaufort Gazette, Beaufort, SC. "Grandparents who raising grandchildren need help," Op Ed by Donna Butts.

June 9th
Sun, San Bernardino CA. "Grandparents raising families need helping hand," Op Ed by Donna Butts.

June 27th
Black Entertainment Television Website. "The Bernie Mac Dilemma: Foster Care or Family Care?" Generations United posted comments including the latest Census data for children being raised by relatives, common circumstances leading to relative caregiving arrangements and issues facing these families.

July 8th
Clarion Ledger, MS. Generations United quoted in reference to new Census numbers on grandparents raising children.

WJZD, Gulfport, MS. Call-in radio program on grandparents raising grandchildren, Maggie Biscarr gave a national overview of the issue, including statistics and descriptions of some national and local resources, and took calls from local grandparent caregivers. Directors from some local programs serving these families called in to join the lively discussion.

July 15th and 19th
C-SPAN 2 and C-SPAN 3. During July C-SPAN aired a tape of the Generations United's Capitol Hill Briefing, "Child Poverty: An Issue for All Generations," The briefing featured leaders of GU's founding organizations including Marian Wright Edelman, Children Defense Fund, Bill Novelli, AARP, and Shay Bilchik, Child Welfare League of America.

For information about how to read or listen to these articles/segments, contact Generations United at gu@gu.org.

New Four-Part PBS Series

THE RISE AND FALL OF JIM CROW is a new four-part PBS series that explores segregation from the end of the civil war to the dawn of the modern civil rights movement, and the inspiring achievements of African Americans who fought against its brutality, will premiere this October on PBS. The series is a co-production of Quest Productions, Videoline, and Thirteen/WNET New York. *THE RISE AND FALL OF JIM CROW* is a multi-faceted project that takes the series beyond the television screen into the community. The project includes a national outreach effort to spark intergenerational discussions between adults who experienced the Jim Crow era and young people. An Intergenerational Discussion Guide will be available on the website and will include essays on the struggles and triumphs in the fight against Jim Crow, compelling personal accounts, anecdotes, questions for discussion, suggestions for oral history and other projects, and listings of resources. The website, www.pbs.org/jimcrow will be accessible in early September.

Abuelas y Jovenes: Older Adults Mentor Parenting Adolescents

By Andrea S. Taylor, Ph.D.
Director of Youth Development Initiatives
Temple University
Center for Intergenerational Learning

Abuelas y Jovenes (Grandmothers and Grandchildren) is a project designed to assess the efficacy of intergenerational mentoring as a strategy for supporting pregnant and parenting adolescents living in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The program is aimed primarily at Latina teens, who are under the age of 18 and are recipients of Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) or whose economic circumstances make them TANF eligible. The unique feature of the project is the pairing of a teen with an older mentor (60+), who provides friendship, support, and guidance through the teen's pregnancy and at least the first year of parenting. While the project has substance abuse prevention as a focus, other goals include preventing repeat pregnancies, strengthening parenting skills, and helping the teens graduate from high school.

Now in it's fourth year, Abuleas y Jovenes has served over 300 teens. Approximately 45 older women were recruited—from area churches, senior centers, community organizations— to be an abuela, or mentor. The abuelas are asked to spend a minimum of two hours per week with each teen. Teens and abuelas engage in a variety of activities together. Abuelas accompany teens and their children on doctor's visits. They go grocery shopping together and the abuelas help teens learn domestic skills, such as cooking, shopping economically and sewing. They have helped teens shop for school and organize and attend birthday parties and baby showers. One abuela helped her teen clean, pack, and move into a new house. Some of them babysit. Conversation focuses on relationships with boyfriends and parents, parenting skills, finding housing—particularly as the children get older.

It has been gratifying to see the relationships between the teens and abuelas finally beginning to thrive. After eight months, the abuelas have gotten past the testing period and, with the trust of the teen, have been able to be helpful and supportive to the teens and their children. For example, 23 teens who had dropped out of school prior to coming into the program are now back in school due to persistent support from the mentors, who helped them do what they need to do to re-enroll and continually encouraged them. They have provided the kind of consistent attention and nurturing the teens need and have been able to help them return to school, find child care for their babies and often find part-time employment. A number have married their children's fathers and have established their own households as a family. Several have left abusive relationships and returned to live with their families. While project data is still being analyzed, preliminary assessments suggest that teens matched with an abuela have higher rates of graduation, fewer repeat pregnancies, and demonstrate more positive parenting skills than teen in a control group who did not receive the support of an older mentor.

The Abuelas y Jovenes project is a collaboration between Temple University's Center for Intergenerational Learning, the Philadelphia Family Planning Council and Congreso de Latinos Unidos, Inc., a health and social service agency serving the Latino community in Philadelphia, PA. It is based in the Across Ages model, which is listed in the National Registry of Effective Prevention Programs. For more information contact Andrea Taylor at 215-204-6970.

INTERGENERATION DAY
OCTOBER 6TH

For more information about Intergeneration Day or to register your plans for an Intergeneration Day project, visit www.intergenerationday.org or contact Lisa Ruth, Executive Director, Intergeneration Foundation at 719-282-8190.

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NEW RESOURCES

Two New Fact Sheets Available from Generations United

Generations United is pleased to announce the release of two new intergenerational fact sheets. *The Benefits of Intergenerational Programs Fact Sheet*, concisely presents the rationale for intergenerational programs, different types of programs, and benefits of programs for communities, children and youth, and older adults.

The revised version of *Intergenerational Mentoring: A Unique Response to the Challenges of Youth*, shares information on the benefits of mentoring programs, why older adults mentor, and examples of intergenerational mentoring programs.

Both fact sheets are available on the GU website at www.gu.org or by contacting GU at (202) 638-1263.

Older People and Their Needs: A Multi-disciplinary Perspective, edited by Gianetta Corley. This book offers an introduction to the personal and service issues surrounding aging by focusing on issues of quality of life and care. This book address relevant topics for students entering the aging field, family members, and informal caregivers. To order, call 888-337-8808 or visit www.healthpropress.com

Child Abuse Prevention Resources, a listing of books and videos from The Child Welfare League of America. Available resources address a variety of topics including abused children in foster care and victims of sexual abuse. To order, call 800-407-6273 or visit www.cwla.org/pubs

Aging, Death & Dying, a catalog of film programs on topics of coping with death, suicide, medical ethics, mental health, and Alzheimer's disease. Call 800-257-5126 or visit www.films.com

National Criminal Justice Reference Service, a catalog of publications and research covering topics such as, elder abuse and missing and exploited children. Call 410-792-4358 or visit www.puborder.ncjrs.org/catalog

Faces of a Grateful Nation – A Celebration of VA Volunteers, this book offers a snapshot of the myriad of special programs and activities taking place on behalf of hospitalized everywhere. Published by the Veterans Affairs Voluntary Service Program and dedicated to American veterans. To find more information visit www.va.gov

Two Thousand, an intergenerational film produced by Magic Hours Films of Denmark. This film show varied clips of pairs a young and aging persons interacting together with their ages always equaling a hundred. To order call Terra Nova Films 800-779-8491.

Aging & Long Term Care Resources, is a catalog of publications and videos examining the issues of caring for the aging. For more information call 888-337-8808 or visit www.healthpress.com

School-Age Parents: The Challenge of 3 Generation Living, this book by Jeanne Warren Lindsay is written to help parents and their parents communicate and ease the stress on families adjusting to role changes. For more information visit parentbookstore.com

Community Programs to Promote Youth Development is published by the Board on Children, Youth, and Families of the National Research Council and the Institute of Medicine. The book offers conclusions about the personal and social assets that foster young people's healthy development. For more information visit www.nap.edu

continued on page 32

Two New Films for Grandparents Raising Grandchildren

Grandparents Raising Grandchildren-
This new film from Terra Nova Films deals with the newly emerging social issue by sharing the stories of four grandparents who are raising their grandchildren. It can serve as a guide and an encouragement to parenting grandparents.

Surrounded with Love: Grandparents Raising Grandchildren-
This video explores the stories of Aderian, Delores and Jewel, three grandparents raising their children. Through the reflections of the grandparents themselves and the commentaries of professionals, the positive and negative feelings of the parenting grandparents' experiences are examined, and practical solutions are recommended.

To order call 800-779-8491 or visit www.terranova.org.

ENDING POVERTY
continued from page 4

public school. The highly appreciative audience learned from "Grandpa Storm" how a positive impact is possible with a caring force present in a child's life.

Closing the briefing, Shay Bilchik emphasized that eliminating child poverty is a commitment that can be shared regardless of constituencies. Bilchik called on Congress to join in support of the Generations United agenda.

The Generations United Agenda to Eliminate Child Poverty

America needs a policy that ensures:

I. Work pays enough to raise a child

- *Expand the federal refundable Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) for families with three or more children*
- *Raise the minimum wage.*

II. Families have the basic tools to support work

- *Lift Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) restrictions so that states can provide educational and training opportunities that last longer than 12 months.*
- *Increase funding for the Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) and Social Services Block Grant (SSBG).*
- *Increase funding for 21st Century Community Learning Centers.*
- *Provide incentives for partnerships among non-profit organizations, for-profit businesses, and state and/or local governments to hire former TANF recipients.*
- *Expand full-day Head Start and Early Head Start.*

III. Extended families are able to support children.

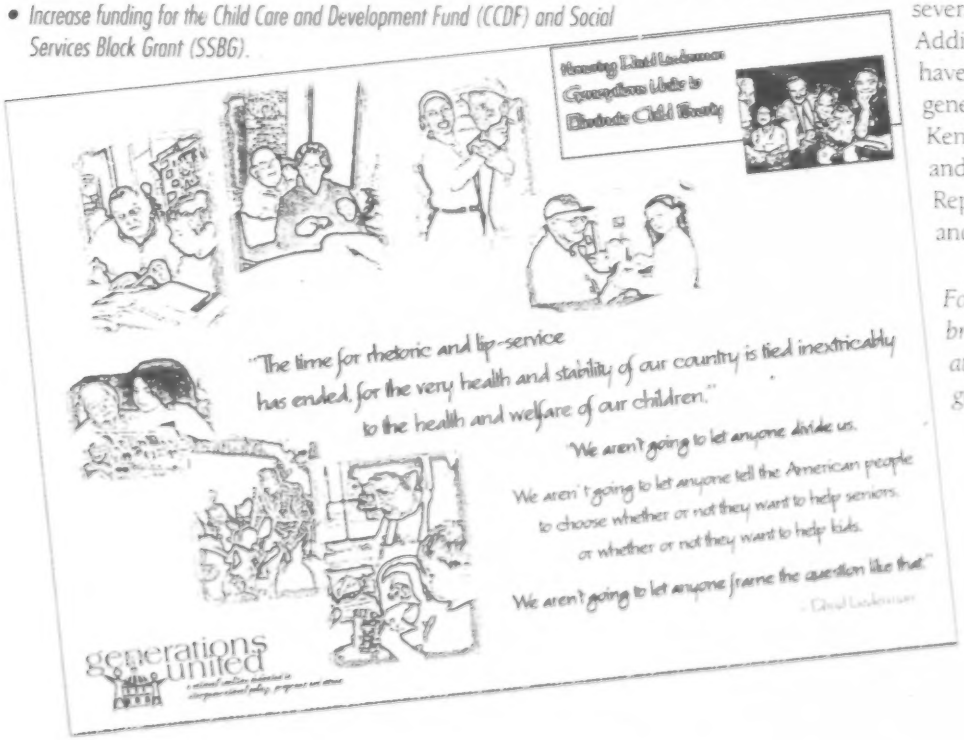
- *Support state experiments with Child Support Assurance (CSA).*
- *Expand job training for noncustodial as well as custodial parents.*
- *Expand support for grandparents and other relatives caring for children*
- *Create new options for adoption and legal guardianship that promote permanence for children who are living with relatives and cannot return to their parents.*
- *Support increased funding and technical assistance for positive youth development programs that encourage intergenerational interaction and recognize young and old as valuable community resources.*

IV. Existing antipoverty efforts reach everyone they are supposed to reach.

- *Improve access and increase outreach for existing support such as food stamps, State Children's Health Insurance Programs, Medicaid, WIC, EITC, child care, and child support enforcement.*

In testament to the importance of combating child poverty, and the success of the briefing, the event aired several times on CSPAN. Additionally, the briefing would not have been possible without the generous sponsorship of Senators Kennedy (D-MA), Wyden (D-OR), and Smith (R-OR) and Representatives Morella (R-MD), and Jackson Lee (D-TX).

For more information about this briefing, contact Generations United at 202-638-1263 or email gu@gu.org.


"The time for rhetoric and lip-service has ended, for the very health and stability of our country is tied inextricably to the health and welfare of our children."
"We aren't going to let anyone divide us.
We aren't going to let anyone tell the American people to choose whether or not they want to help seniors or whether or not they want to help kids.
We aren't going to let anyone frame the question like that."
generations united

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ENCHANTED EVENING,
continued from page 6

For several days following the Intergenerational Senior Prom, many of the students "dates" visited the Volunteer Department to express their excitement about the event. One student gleefully reported: "It was great. I loved the way my date was moving and dancing and reminiscing about the way she used to jitterbug!" Another student proclaimed: "Having the Senior Prom was a great idea. It helped the volunteers to communicate with the elders on a one to one basis. It was incredible. I was really impressed and amazed."

The Isabella Geriatric Center's Intergenerational Senior Prom was truly a Kodak evening, filled with beaming smiles. However, what the photographs could not capture was the bonding, sharing and love, which enveloped everyone present!

For more information contact Janet Listokin at 212-342-9200.

Chicago Metropolitan Intergenerational Committee Intergenerational Conference "All Arts, All Ages"

Friday, November 8th, 2002
at
Oakton Community College
7601 Lincoln Ave.
Skokie, Illinois.

Featured Presenter: Susan Perlstein, Executive Director, Elders Share the Arts, New York, NY.

For more information contact Maureen Statland, at (847) 818-2901 or email statlandm@mail.aces.uiuc.edu

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Michael Layne, NC
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Washington, DC 20001
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PROGRAM UPDATE
continued from page 7

- *Serve on program advisory boards or committees as representatives of diverse constituencies and age groups;*
- *Participate in program planning and design to ensure all special considerations are identified and addressed;*
- *Collaborate in program staffing using their specialized knowledge of different age groups to strengthen the program;*
- *Identify and recruit youth and older adult participants;*
- *Provide in-kind support such as use of facilities, tools, materials, buses/vans, office equipment, and administrative support;*
- *Co-produce program materials;*
- *Collaborate and assist with training and in-service sessions;*
- *Create new projects;*
- *Promote senior service programs throughout their networks and in the community;*
- *Identify and recommend appropriate service projects for their constituency (children, youth, environment, mentoring, visual and performing arts, etc); and*
- *Coordinate transportation and remove barriers to participation.*

Tips from Generations United's publication *Young and Old Serving Together: Meeting Community Needs Through Intergenerational Partnerships.*

For more information on GU's intergenerational program efforts, please contact GU at (202) 638-1263 or gu@gu.org.

NEWS FROM THE STATES, *continued from page 21*

"I haven't taught anyone before," Rikustad said, shyly. "My dad heard of the program from Ted and I thought, 'Hey, why not.' It sounded like something fun to do."

Huddled with their heads together, the two make progress and seem to enjoy each other's company in the process.

"It's an organic experience for them," Ullman said. "It's amazing what the kids come up with, and we are bumping into some really talented kids. It's also payback for them to payback the older generation and provides a great community service."

For more information contact Ted Ullman at 509-899-3495.

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

BECOME A GENERATIONS UNITED MEMBER TODAY

Generations United is the only national membership organization focused solely on promoting intergenerational policies, strategies and programs. Members support the work of GU and can provide direct input into GU's priorities.

Membership benefits include:

- *annual subscription to Together, GU's quarterly newsletter*
- *conference and educational event discounts*
- *public policy alerts and briefings*
- *access to our national program profile database*
- *linkage to GU's web page*
- *discounts on GU publications*
- *and much more!*

Join Generations United today to support and strengthen the intergenerational movement nationally and in Washington, DC. If you have any questions, please contact us at 202/638-1263.

Membership Application:

Name: _____

Title: _____

Organization: _____

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Dues are paid on a yearly basis:

❑ Individual membership-$50
❑ Individual sustaining-$100*
❑ Student or Retiree membership-$25
❑ Organization membership-Based on a sliding scale.

Contact GU directly for more information before sending in form.

** Contributions above the basic membership fee support the work of Generations United and are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.*

Please make check payable to Generations United and return to: Generations United 122 C Street, N.W., Suite 820, Washington, DC 20001-2109

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Generations United

International Conference

Special Grandparenting Workshops available

SAVE THE DATE

October 15-18, 2003

Old Town Alexandria, VA

(minutes from Washington, D.C.)

Generations United is pleased to announce that our **12th International Conference** will be held **October 15-18, 2003,** in Alexandria, Virginia, outside of Washington, D.C. Look for the call for proposals later this year. For more information, contact **Generations United at 202-638-1263 or gu@gu.org**

Please save these dates and we hope to see you there!

generations united
a national coalition dedicated to intergenerational policy, programs and issues

Intergenerational Approaches:

Not Just Nice ... Necessary

For more information, call 202-638-1263 **e-mail: gu@gu.org** **www.gu.org**

RESOURCES, *continued from page 24*

An Advocate's Guide to the Medicaid Program, this newly updated manual offers a thorough review of the Medicaid Program. To order contact the National Health Law Program at 310-204-6010.

Grandma U, an illustrated book about an expecting grandmother who enrolls at Grandma U, a university to train new grandmothers. This colorful book is a great read to children and makes a great gift to grandparents. To order visit www.peachtree-online.com

Resource Catalog for Books, Videos and Training for the Human Service Professional: From the National Resource Center for Youth Services at The University of Oklahoma this catalog has resources in areas of Residential Care, Conflict Resolution, and Child Welfare. To order call 800-274-2687 or visit www.nrcys.ou.edu

Elder Care: A Six Step Guide to Balancing Work and Family, a new book out by John Paul Marosy guides the reader in preparing a practical, personal plan for juggling the demands of paid employment with caring for an older loved one. Order online at www.bringingeldercarehome.com

FROM THE CHAIR, *continued from page 2*

Soon we will begin work on our intergenerational public policy agenda for the incoming 108th Congress. We will review our progress and identify the intergenerational intersection on issues that matter to younger and older Americans. The support of our board and of our members has not only made GU 's growth possible, it has helped to make David's vision a reality.

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